



# Watt's New

December 2025



## Vernon Electric Cooperative

*"Information for our members."*

### Monthly Co-op



#### NOVEMBER TRIVIA:

Approximately what percentage of Vernon Electric Cooperative's members are residential accounts?

**Answer:** Approximately 80%

#### DECEMBER TRIVIA:

What popular holiday drink was the first to be advertised using electric lights?

*(See next month's newsletter for answer.)*

## Happy Holidays from all of us at Vernon Electric Cooperative!

As we look back on the past year, we are truly grateful for the members, communities, and partners who make our cooperative such a special place. Your support, involvement, and trust allow us to continue delivering safe, reliable, and affordable power every day.

This season reminds us just how proud we are to serve the people who call our service area home. Whether you've been with us for decades or just joined the cooperative this year, thank you for being part of the VEC family.

As you celebrate the holidays, here are a few safety and energy-efficiency reminders to help keep your home warm, bright, and secure:

- **Choose LED holiday lights**—they're brighter, safer, and use up to 90% less energy.

- **Turn off or unplug decorations** before bedtime or when leaving home.
- **Keep space heaters at least three feet away** from trees, gifts, curtains, and furniture.
- **Lower your thermostat a few degrees when hosting**, as cooking, baking, and gathering naturally warm your home.
- **Check cords and outlets** for fraying or overloads to prevent hazards.

From everyone at Vernon Electric Cooperative, we wish you a season filled with joy, peace, and togetherness. Thank you for allowing us to power your homes, your holidays, and your everyday moments. We look forward to serving you in the new year!

## Scholarships Available

Vernon Electric Cooperative is pleased to announce that scholarship applications are now open for students whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are VEC members. Selected high school seniors will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship to use at the college or university of their choice.

In addition to our traditional awards, we also offer a \$1,000 Line Worker Scholarship and a \$1,000 Non-Traditional Scholarship for members pursuing education outside of the standard high school-to-college path.

These scholarships are funded through unclaimed capital credit checks which are turned over to the Federated Youth Foundation (FYF). FYF, a nonprofit organization that administers trust

funds on behalf of Wisconsin cooperatives, including electric co-ops, makes this funding available to support educational opportunities for VEC members.

Eligible applicants from each participating high school, along with one at-large applicant, will be selected through a random drawing conducted at the January Board Meeting from all completed and verified applications received.

To learn more or apply, visit [vernnonelectric.org/scholarships](http://vernnonelectric.org/scholarships) or speak with your school's guidance counselor.

**Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity!**



# Vernon Electric Earns RESAP Safety Achievement

Vernon Electric Cooperative is proud to announce that we have been awarded a RESAP (Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program) designation—an honor that recognizes our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of safety across the organization.

Earning this achievement is no small task. RESAP is a rigorous, industry-recognized program that evaluates safety performance, culture, training, and workplace practices. It requires full participation from every employee, from field operations to office staff, working together to identify risks, improve procedures, and uphold a culture where safety comes first.

This recognition is a testament to the dedication and teamwork of our entire cooperative. We are grateful for the ongoing commitment our employees show each day to ensure that everyone goes home safely.



Left to Right – Kim Carlson, Mark See, Ken Karwoski

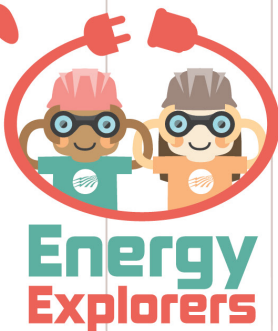
## HOLIDAY EFFICIENCY WORD SEARCH

The holidays are a fun, festive time of year! But this is also a time when we typically use more electricity at home because the weather is colder and we're home for the holiday season.

Read the efficiency tips below, then find and circle the **bolded** words in the puzzle.

### Holiday Efficiency Tips:

- Decorate your tree with energy-saving **LED lights**.
- Save energy by using a **timer** to turn off holiday lights when you're sleeping.
- If you have a **fireplace** in your home, remind an adult to close the **damper** when a fire is not burning.
- Open blinds and curtains during the day to let **sunlight** in to warm your home.
- Lower the **thermostat** when you invite friends or family over.



W	F	M	M	V	X	W	Q	L	B	P	V	E	J	E
J	I	Z	O	P	T	W	E	N	A	W	A	C	N	E
R	E	M	I	T	M	D	E	R	U	K	V	A	H	B
I	J	X	Z	L	L	R	D	Y	L	A	P	L	J	F
K	L	F	A	I	N	Z	I	J	K	P	Q	P	P	H
T	R	P	G	C	T	B	O	X	A	S	R	E	G	T
J	T	H	E	R	M	O	S	T	A	T	Q	R	V	F
T	T	F	E	S	Y	A	F	G	C	T	X	I	G	T
S	R	B	R	A	Y	O	U	A	B	E	H	F	H	Y
J	Z	E	H	V	L	T	U	H	W	L	O	G	V	Y
E	F	O	P	L	Q	H	Y	K	K	L	I	B	B	I
A	R	A	W	M	V	W	D	Y	X	L	L	Q	Q	I
A	W	G	S	Z	A	W	R	O	N	J	J	J	P	Z
R	P	U	Q	U	K	D	G	U	P	B	K	D	K	Q
B	Z	S	C	J	Q	B	S	G	V	F	X	U	J	F