



Line Items

The Official
Newsletter
Of Excelsior EMC

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WINTER ENERGY SAVINGS: A Brighter, Warmer Home for Excelsior EMC Members

As the cooler temperatures become more frequent, it's natural to seek comfort and warmth within the walls of our homes. However, as the temperatures drop, so do our energy-saving opportunities. Here are some valuable tips to keep your home cozy and your energy bills in check...

1. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HEAT FROM THE SUN

Utilize nature's warmth by opening curtains on south-facing windows during the day, allowing sunlight to naturally heat your home. At night, close them to reduce cold drafts. Plant deciduous trees strategically; they'll invite winter sunlight and offer summer shade, optimizing your home's energy efficiency year-round.

2. COVER DRAFTY WINDOWS

Combat chilly drafts by sealing windows with heavy-duty, clear plastic sheets or insulating drapes. Ensure tight seals to reduce infiltration, preserving the warmth within your home and preventing energy wastage.

3. ADJUST THE TEMPERATURE WISELY

Optimize your thermostat settings. When you're home and active, set the temperature as low as comfortably possible. Lower it when you're asleep or away, potentially saving up to 10% annually. Consider smart thermostats for convenient, energy-efficient control, always ensuring your pets' comfort. We recommend setting the thermostat to 68 degrees in the winter and 78 degrees in the summer.

4. FIND AND SEAL LEAKS

Identify and seal air leaks around utility cut-throughs, chimneys, and windows using caulk or weatherstripping. A well-sealed home retains heat efficiently, preventing energy loss through gaps and cracks.

5. MAINTAIN YOUR HEATING SYSTEMS

Regularly service your heating systems to ensure they operate at peak efficiency. Replace furnace and heat pump filters regularly, and clean vents and flue vents. Proper maintenance ensures your systems work optimally, conserving energy and reducing your utility bills.

6. REDUCE HEAT LOSS FROM THE FIREPLACE

Fireplaces can be cozy but also energy drains. Keep the damper closed when not in use and consider installing tempered glass doors and a heat-air exchange system. These additions circulate warm air back into the room, minimizing heat loss and maximizing efficiency.

7. LOWER WATER HEATING COSTS

Moderate your water heater temperature to 120°F to conserve energy without sacrificing comfort. This not only saves energy but also reduces the risk of scalding accidents.

8. LOWER HOLIDAY LIGHTING COSTS

Embrace LED holiday light strings for your festive decorations. These energy-efficient options are not only eco-friendly but also cost-effective, brightening your home without burdening your electricity bill.

By implementing these simple yet effective tips, Excelsior EMC members can enjoy a warmer, cozier winter while conserving energy and saving on utility costs. Let's make this winter season both delightful and energy-efficient for our community!



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Joseph Jones
Editor

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Between the Lines

by Greg Proctor
President/CEO

Veterans Day

Here at Excelsior EMC, we pause to pay tribute to the true heroes of our nation—our veterans. As we celebrate Veteran's Day, we are filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the brave men and women who have selflessly safeguarded our freedom, allowing us the opportunity to pursue our dreams and passions in this land of liberty.

Our veterans, the embodiment of courage and sacrifice, have stood on the front lines, ensuring that the values we hold dear remain unshaken. Their unwavering dedication has not only protected our way of life but has also inspired us to be better, to value the simple joys of life, and to appreciate the profound significance of unity and service.

In a spirit of deep gratitude, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to the veterans in our community and across the nation. These men and women enrich our lives with their presence and the powerful stories they share. Through their experiences, we gain important insights into the strength of the human spirit and the value of coming together in the face of challenges. Their unwavering dedication to our country teaches us the importance of persistence during tough times and the strength that comes from unity.

As we enjoy the freedom to pursue our passions, let's always remember that these freedoms are a precious gift from our veterans—a gift that we must protect and pass on to the generations to come. Let's be inspired by their legacy, working together with the same strength, resilience, and unity that define their remarkable contributions to our country. Please join Excelsior EMC in remembering the service of our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much that we can live free.

“
WE DON'T KNOW
THEM ALL, BUT WE
OWE THEM ALL

”

WITH RESPECT HONOR AND GRATITUDE
THANK YOU VETERANS



Every Member Counts

WHAT TO DO: IF YOUR CAR CRASHES INTO A UTILITY POLE

Accidents happen. Would you know what to do if your car crashed into an electric utility pole? Knowing what to do could be the difference between life and death.

Always consider power lines and other electrical equipment to be live and dangerous!

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS **NO** FIRE:

Your safest option is to stay inside your vehicle until help arrives. The vehicle acts as a path for the electrical current to travel to reach the ground. You are safe inside the vehicle, but if you get out, you could be electrocuted.

Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS **A** FIRE:

Only attempt to leave your vehicle if it is on fire.

To exit safely:

- Jump out of the vehicle, making sure **NO** part of your body or clothing touches the ground and vehicle at the same time.
- Land with both feet together and in small, shuffling steps, move at least 40 ft. away from the vehicle.
- The ground could be energized. Shuffling away with both feet together decreases the risk of electrical shock.

Call 911 or your local electric utility for help.



NEW FACE AT EXCELSIOR EMC



Shasta Gast

Shasta Gast has recently been hired to fill the position of Facilities and Warehouse Assistant. Shasta comes to us with a background in manufacturing and she lives in Metter with her husband (Matt) and two children (Michael and Zoey).

As Facilities and Warehouse Assistant, Shasta will ensure that our facilities are well taken care of, materials in our warehouse are organized and stocked, and assist our Purchasing Agent in ensuring that our crews have the tools and materials needed to get the job done and keep the lights burning.

In her short time here at Excelsior EMC, Shasta has shown her many strengths and we are very happy to have her on our team. Please help us to welcome Shasta!



Excelsior EMC will be closed November 23 & 24

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