

News Release



**Woodruff Electric
Cooperative Corporation**

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Woodruff Electric Wants Everyone to Keep Festivity in Your Holiday Lighting

The holidays are an exciting time of year, but the celebrations and decorations do pose electrical safety hazards. Woodruff Electric wants to remind the community to keep safety top of mind, so that this holiday season stays merry and bright.

“Please take note of your surroundings before decorating outside,” urges Rodney Kelso, WECC Vice President of Operations. “Especially power lines and the service connection to your home. Make sure to keep yourself, ladders, and lights far away from them” Kelso mentions.

For your safety follow these additional precautions:

- Do not hang lights when it is windy, raining, or snowing.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) extension cord outdoors. GFCIs cut off power instantly if there is an electrical problem, saving you from a dangerous shock.
- Use only lights that are intended for outdoor use.

Overhead power lines pose a safety threat, but so do many of the indoor decorations we use. Remember these importance safety tips from Woodruff Electric when it comes to indoor decorating:

- Examine all lights, electronics, and appliances before use.
- Use only UL approved lights and electronics.
- Do not overload extension cords or string more than the recommended number of light strands together.
- Keep cords out of high traffic areas.
- Pay special attention to children and pets around decorations.

Entertaining during the holiday season often involves cooking for family and friends. Protect yourself, loved ones and friends from the hazards of cooking by keeping these tips in mind:

- Never plug more than one high-wattage appliance into a single outlet.
- Keep cooking areas empty and devoid of grease.
- Make sure outlets near sinks are equipped with properly tested GFCIs to prevent shocks.
- Always have a working fire extinguisher on hand and know how to operate it.

Woodruff Electric wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Help keep yourself, your family, and those you entertain safe.

Woodruff Electric Cooperative, headquartered in Forrest City, is a member-owned electric utility. Woodruff Electric serves electric power to more than 19,000 homes, farms, and businesses in parts of Woodruff, Prairie, Monroe, Cross, St. Francis, Lee, and Phillips counties in eastern Arkansas. The District offices are located in Augusta, Moro and Barton.

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