

Lines

THE NEWSLETTER FOR PEPCO CUSTOMERS IN THE DISTRICT

WWW.PEPCO.COM

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Become an Energy Star!

Pepco is a proud partner in the national ENERGY STAR® campaign – a jointly-sponsored program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to protect the environment through awareness of energy-efficiency.

Since its inception in 1992, ENERGY STAR has become a trusted symbol for consumers seeking information on energy conservation practices and products.

When shopping for appliances, look for the ENERGY STAR logo. It's your assurance you're purchasing a quality energy-efficient product.

Check out the ENERGY STAR Web site at www.energystar.gov.

Lighting That Saves You Money

Did you know that lighting can account for up to 20 percent of your home's total energy bill? There are steps you can take today to decrease your lighting costs and help protect the environment.

Replace one or more incandescent light bulbs with an ENERGY STAR® compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). A CFL uses about 75 percent less energy than incandescent lighting and lasts up to 10 times longer.

And since CFLs use less energy, they're good for the environment. That means you use less power for the same light. If everyone uses less power then power plants generate less electricity, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

CFLs fit almost any lighting fixture in your home and come in different sizes and shapes. Many are identical to an incandescent bulb. They're also available for indoor and outdoor uses.

You have a choice of CFLs that can produce varying shades of white light. Most on the market today produce a soft, warm glow. They're comparable to an incandescent bulb and enhance the warmer color of your home. Others available emit a "bright white" light and enhance the cooler colors of your surroundings.

You can use CFLs just as you do incandescent bulbs – both indoors and outdoors. Go to www.energystar.gov to see which bulbs will best fit your home's needs.

Take the Pledge to Save Energy, Save the Planet

Pepco has made a commitment to do our part to save energy and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Join us and take the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge to change at least one light bulb at home to an energy-efficient one. Log on to www.pepco.com and help us reach our goal of 10,000 pledges.

It's a small step that's already making a big difference.



Enjoy the Holidays Safely



The winter holiday season is here, and that means that many of us will be decorating and entertaining in our homes. Let's remember to do it safely. Here are some electrical and fire safety tips to keep in mind:

- If you are decorating outside, make absolutely sure you or any objects you may be carrying, such as a ladder, do not come into contact with a power line.
- Use holiday decorations made of flame resistant, flame retardant, non-combustible material.
- When using a live or cut tree, be sure to check the water level daily.
- Before using decorations that require electricity, inspect them and replace any that are frayed or damaged.
- Do not overload extension cords.
- Keep candles away from trees, decorations or other items that can catch fire.
- Turn off all string lights and other decorations that use electricity before going to bed or leaving home.
- Make sure smoke alarms are in good working order.

For more electrical safety tips, visit www.pepco.com and click on the "Safety & Conservation" link.

A Special Note about Candle Safety

Pepco does not recommend the use of candles. Every year candles are responsible for thousands of home fires, some of which sadly result in injuries and death.

Still, we recognize that many people enjoy their use, particularly during the winter holidays. If you use candles, please follow these guidelines:

- Use flashlights and/or battery-powered lanterns instead of candles during a power outage.
- Do not use candles in children's rooms.
- Keep candles a minimum of one foot away from flammable material, such as curtains, furniture, books and clothing.
- Do not use them anywhere near flammable liquids.
- Extinguish all candles before leaving a room, leaving home or going to sleep.



Signs on Utility Poles Pose Safety Hazard

Signs and banners posted on utility poles pose a safety hazard for utility line workers who may have to climb poles to restore power or perform routine maintenance work.

Even when signs are removed, nails, staples and fasteners often remain. They pose a risk of a trip or fall. Moreover, the sharp edges can tear protective gear, exposing workers to electrical shock.

Also, posting signs on utility poles is illegal in most areas of the country, including Pepco's service territory.

Thanks for helping keep the people who keep the lights on safe.