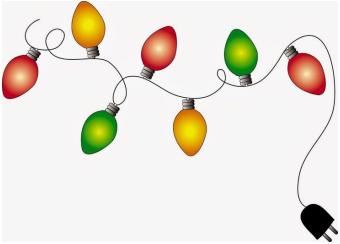


City of Warroad TIPS & TIDBITS

10 Electrical Safety Tips for Christmas



1. **Buy a fire-resistant tree.** If you're shopping for an artificial tree this year, make sure you purchase one labeled "fire retardant." This doesn't mean the tree won't catch fire, but it will resist burning and can be extinguished quickly if it does catch fire.

2. **Find the freshest tree.** If you're reusing a real tree, make sure you find one that's fresh. It should be green with needles that are hard to pull from the branch and bend instead of break. Once you've got your tree home, cut the bottom at a 45 degree angle and stick it in water to keep it fresh. Allowing your tree to dry out makes it more likely to catch fire from electrical sparks.

3. **Place outdoor lights outdoors.** This one may seem like a no brainer, but if you plan to hang lights outside, they need to be designed specifically for the outdoors. Retailers sell lights designed to handle inclement weather outdoors, while indoor lights could be damaged by snow or rain and pose an electrical hazard if used outside.
4. **Use insulated hooks.** Hanging lights with nails, tacks or screws can pierce the cable on a string of lights. Instead, hang your lights with insulated hooks to avoid any electrical emergencies.
5. **Check your lights.** Before you string lights up on your tree or in your yard, make sure they are functioning properly. Plug them in to see if all the lights turn on. If not, unplug the strand and replace the broken bulbs. And make sure you look for frayed wires or cracked cords. If you find that your lights have some damage, toss them out. You don't want your lights to short and cause a fire.
6. **Examine labels.** Christmas lights should be tested and verified by third-party laboratory Underwriters Laboratories. UL ensures products meet safety requirements for risks such as electrical problems and fire. Before you buy a box of new bulbs, make sure they meet this standard and have a UL label. A set of indoor lights will have a green holographic UL sticker on the cord, while indoor/outdoor lights will have a red sticker.
7. **Keep an eye on extension cords.** Make sure your extension cords don't overheat. Every once in a while just touch the cord to measure its temperature. If it's hot, unplug it. Also, ensure that any connector pieces are off of the ground with a brick or rock. If the connector piece is left on the ground, snow, rain or dirt can find its way into the plug, creating a hazard.
8. **Don't overload.** If you put up a lot of lights each year, it's important to distribute your light strands among multiple extensions cords. Each extension cord comes with a wattage rating. If the combined wattage of your lights exceeds that of your cord, it can overheat. The U.S. Fire Administration recommends linking no more than three strands of lights. However, if you're using energy saving LEDs, the U.S. Department of Energy says it's safe to connect 25 strands end to end.
9. **Turn off the lights.** You shouldn't leave your Christmas lights on all the time. Not only does it add up on you electricity bill, it's also a safety issue. This holiday season make sure you unplug the lights whenever you're not home or sleeping.
10. **Pack it away.** When the holidays are over, pack up your Christmas lights in well-sealed containers. This will prevent potential water damage and also hinder rodents from chewing on the cords.



CITY HALL & UTILITY SHOP HOLIDAY HOURS

December 22 7:30am—1:00 pm
 December 25 CLOSED
 December 26 CLOSED
 December 29 7:30am—1:00 pm
 January 1, 2024 CLOSED



ENERGY STAR REBATES

The City of Warroad offers its customers incentives toward energy efficiency. If you purchase a qualifying Energy Star Appliance you could qualify for a rebate. Visit our website or contact us for more information.



We are on the web:
www.warroadmn.org

City Hall– 218-386-1454

Mayor - Bob Marvin

City Administrator- Kathy Lovelace
cityadmin@warroadmn.org

Councilor– Doug Thomasson
Councilor– Michele Vandal
Councilor– Kevin Thompson
Councilor– Joe Olafson

121 Main Ave NE
PO Box 50
Warroad MN 56763

Utilities Office– 218-386-1873

To Pay Your Bill– 218-386-1454

City Superintendent– Dan Trosen
108 Alma Ave SE
PO Box 50
Warroad MN 56763
utilitiesupt@warroadmn.org

Campground– 218-386-1004

Park/Maintenance– Adam Solberg

Police– 218-386-2053

Police Chief– Wade Steinbring
Officer On Duty—218-242-1851

Fire/ EMT– 218-386-1161

Fire Chief– Damian McMillin
EMS Manager– Joy Bukowiec

802 Cherne Ave NW
PO Box 50
Warroad MN 56763

ANY EMERGENCY dial 911

The City of Warroad Utilities Department provides electric, water, and sewer services to more than 1,800 customers in the community. Owned by the citizens of the community, the City of Warroad Utilities is committed to providing our customers with dependable power, clean drinking water, high quality service and fair rates. We believe that giving you useful information is an important part of that service. We are available to answer any questions during our regular office hours. Our rates are available on our web site @ www.warroadmn.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



With almost every new year, there comes new year’s resolutions. Now is the time to make that commitment to become more energy/conservation aware: Watch your water usage. Use your monthly bill to track your usage. A small leak can add up quickly. Remember, your monthly sewer charge is based on your water usage also. Be aware of all of the silent energy users in your home like your computer, laptop, phone chargers. Be sure to unplug them when you are not using them. Space heaters consume large amounts of energy. Do not use them for your only heat source. Winterize - insulate, seal cracks, and STAY WARM!

Problems paying your electric bill?

If you need help paying your electric utility bill, you may qualify for state or federal assistance. For complete qualifications and application information, contact your Community/Citizens' Action Council or local county welfare service.

Northwest Community Action
1-218-528-3258

Roseau County Social Services
1-218- 463-2411

EMERGENCY SERVICES REMINDERS

1. In the event of an emergency call 911.
2. Make sure you have a house number on your home or business that can be seen clearly from the road. If you have an emergency and need assistance, you want to make sure the Warroad emergency personnel can find you.
3. Always keep your homes and vehicles locked.
4. Change out your fire alarm batteries yearly & check your carbon monoxide alarms monthly.
5. Professionally clean your heating system annually and keep your vents clear for your furnace, clothes dryer, stove and fireplace.
6. Do not run vehicles in garages.
7. In the event of severe weather during summer months, immediately go to the Gardens Hockey Arena for shelter located at 707 Elk St NW.



**UTILITY AFTER HOURS ON-CALL
DUTY PHONE 218-242-0201**



Utility bill payments are due on the 25th of every month