

KEC Community Solar Project Update



To date, KEC has sold nearly 40 percent of the units of power in our Community Solar Project. Solar energy generation varies significantly in our area, from winter to summer and as we move into summer we look forward to increased energy production.

The 50KW solar array is located in Worley. Members may purchase individual units of power for \$456. Each unit represents a portion of

the energy produced by the solar array. The solar array is divided into 288 units and each unit is expected to generate approximately 234 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per year.

It works like this: KEC takes care of all the costs including maintenance and insurance. Members purchase units of power that represent a portion of the energy produced by the solar array through 2042. The energy production generated by the system each month is divided into 288 units and members will receive

a kWh credit on their bills according to the number of units of power they own.

What happens if you move: You may keep your unit(s) as long as you stay within KEC's service territory. If you move outside of the service territory, you may transfer the unit(s) to another active KEC member or KEC will buy back the unit(s) at a pro-rated price. **To sign up contact us at 208.765.1200 or kec@kec.com.**



Join Us for the KEC Golf Classic on June 28

Join us on Friday, June 28, for KEC's 20th Annual Golf Classic at the Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course. The

tournament starts at 2 p.m. and proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Operation Round Up® Scholarship Program. If you're interested in playing golf, the registration cost includes greens fees, a golf cart and drinks. The cost per team is \$800 and includes a banner sponsorship. Individuals can play for \$160 each. There will be a forecaddie assigned to each team. The forecaddie will work on a gratuity basis with an average rate of \$25 per bag for 18 holes. For more information call 208.292.3270.

Thank you to our Signature Sponsor:



May is Electrical Safety Month.

Safety Starts with You.

#ElectricalSafetyMonth

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Doug Elliott

Safety Starts with You

Electricity plays many roles in our lives, from powering baby

monitors, cell phones and lighting, to running HVAC systems and appliances. We get so comfortable with its instant availability that when we flip a switch, we just expect most systems or devices to do the job.

May is National Electrical Safety Month, and at KEC we think it's a great time to look around your home and check for potential safety hazards.

Remember, every electrical device has a purpose and a service lifespan. While we can extend their operations with maintenance and care, none of them is designed to last or work forever. When electricity is involved, failures can present electrical hazards that might be avoided with periodic inspections.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

Outdoor outlets or those in potentially damp locations in a kitchen, bathroom or laundry room often include GFCI features. They are designed to sense abnormal current flows, breaking the circuit to prevent potential electric shocks from devices plugged into the outlets.

The average GFCI outlet is designed to last about 10 years, but in areas prone to electrical storms or power surges, they can wear out in five years or less. Check them frequently by pressing the red test button.

Make sure you hit the black reset button when you are done. Contact a licensed electrician to replace any failing GFCI outlets.

Loose or Damaged Outlets or Switches

Unstable electrical outlets or wall switches with signs of heat damage or discoloration can offer early warnings of potential shock or electrical fire hazards. Loose connections can allow electrical current arcing. If you see these warning signs, it may be time to contact an electrician.

Surge Protectors

Power strips with surge protectors can help safeguard expensive

equipment like televisions, home entertainment systems and computer components from power spikes. Voltage spikes are measured in joules, and surge protectors are rated for the number of joules they can effectively absorb. That means if your surge protector is rated at 1,000 joules, it should be replaced when it hits or passes that limit. When the limit is reached, protection stops, and you're left with a basic power strip.

Some surge protectors include indicator lights that flicker to warn you when they've stopped working as designed, but many do not. If your electrical system takes a major hit, or if you don't remember when you bought your surge protector, replacement may be the best option.

Extension Cords

If you use extension cords regularly to connect devices and equipment to your wall outlets, you may live

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Never use electrical cords that feel warm to the touch or are damaged in any way.

Safety starts with you.

MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

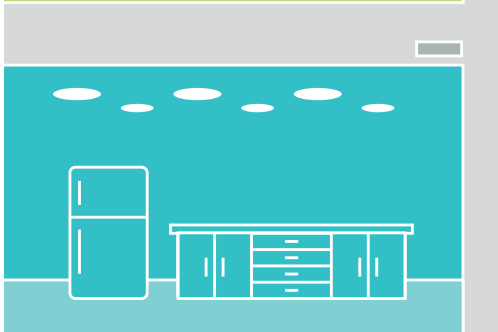
Save Energy with LEDs

LED lights last up to 30 times longer than incandescents, reducing the need to replace bulbs in high or hard-to-reach places. Below are LED lighting suggestions for your home.



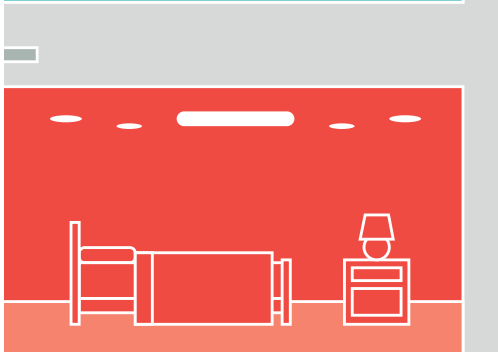
Living Room Lamps

Table or floor three-way lamps using LED bulbs provide 620, 1,600 or 2,150 lumens of soft white light and deliver up to 25,000 hours of light.



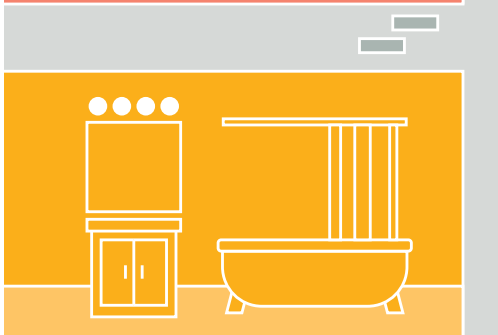
Kitchen

Dimmable recessed LED conversion lights add a warm glow of up to 1,200 lumens for kitchen workspaces and add far less heat to your kitchen. Each bulb could last 10 years.



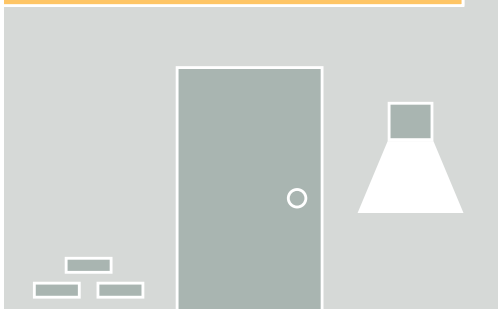
Bedrooms and Hallways

Long-life LEDs are ideal for ceiling fixtures. A 9-watt LED produces the same 800 lumens of light as a 60-watt incandescent, and uses about 80 percent less energy.



Bathrooms

Omnidirectional LED globe bulbs are designed to provide a warm glow ideal for bathrooms. A 6-watt bulb produces 450 lumens and lasts up to 15,000 hours.



Outdoors

A 6-watt, 500 lumen LED bulb can replace a 40-watt incandescent bulb. Designed to last up to 30,000 hours, it could be a one-time switch.

Safety Starts with You, Continued

in an “underwired” home. With a growing number of electrical devices connecting your family to the electricity you get from KEC, having enough outlets in just the right spots can be challenging. Remember, extension cords are designed for temporary, occasional or periodic use.

If an extension cord gets noticeably warm when in use, it could be undersized for the intended use. If it shows any signs of frayed, cracked or heat-damaged insulation, it should be replaced. If the grounding prong is missing, crimped or loose, a grounded cord will not provide the protection it is designed to provide. And always make sure that extension cords used in outdoor or potentially damp locations are rated for exterior use.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, approximately 51,000 electrical fires are reported each year in the United States, causing more than \$1.3 billion in property damage.

Electricity is essential for modern living, and KEC is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to all of our members. We hope you’ll keep these electrical safety tips in mind so that you can note any potential hazards before damage occurs.

Doug Elliott
KEC General Manager

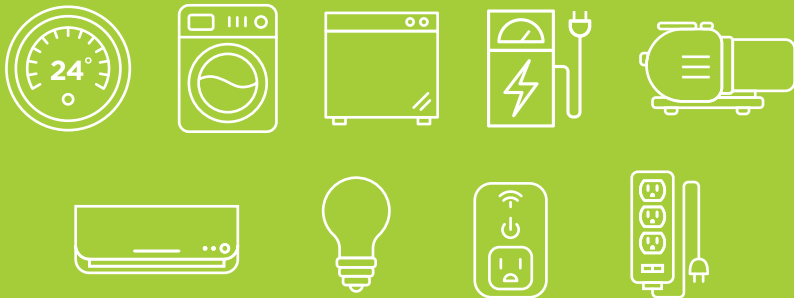
GET SMART ABOUT ENERGY SAVINGS

“Smart” devices and appliances save time and offer convenience – but not all save energy. The guide below shows how several trendy smart home technologies stack up when it comes to energy savings.

Smart Energy Savers



- Thermostats
- Washing machines and dryers
- Dishwashers
- EV charging stations
- Pool pumps
- Air conditioners
- Light bulbs and fixtures
- Power strips



Just Smart

- Virtual assistants (like Amazon’s Alexa or Apple HomeKit)
- Smart locks
- Smart alarms
- Smart video security cameras

NEWS BRIEFS

KEC OFFICE CLOSED ON MEMORIAL DAY

The KEC office will be closed on May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

KEC BOARD MEETINGS

Members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings. Meeting dates vary—call Constance Felten at 208.292.3211 for details.

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

Below are 10 KEC account numbers. If you find your number contact us at 208.765.1200 and receive a \$50 credit on your bill.

1817704, 1450364, 1840841, 1446324, 1822478, 1814986, 1635232, 1541904, 1831089, 1351975

ALWAYS CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Before you start any digging project be sure to call 811. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs. Calling 811 gets your underground utility lines marked for free and helps prevent undesired consequences.



Today, more than **4,000 smart devices** are available to consumers.

A recent international survey asked people how they are using smart home assistants.

65% check weather and news, and play music
6% control lighting, televisions and other appliances

