



HOLI-DOs & HOLI-DON'Ts



As you gather with family and friends to celebrate the festive holiday season, keep your home and loved ones safe by following these electrical safety tips.



HOLI-DO

- Do use energy-efficient LED lights.
- Do properly secure inflatable lawn ornaments.
- Do use indoor lights inside.
- Do replace frayed light strands.
- Do keep space heaters at least 3 feet from bedding, clothing, draperies, furniture and rugs.
- Do keep candles on solid surfaces and away from flammable items.



HOLI-DON'T

- Don't use space heaters near water or flammable liquids.
- Don't use tinsel, it's not environmentally friendly and cannot be recycled.
- Don't allow fingers or paws near electrical decorations.
- Don't leave decorations on all night.
- Don't fall asleep with an electrical blanket left on.
- Don't overload power strips.



Find more safety tips at [OUC.com/HolidaySafety](https://www.ouc.com/HolidaySafety)



COLD WEATHER ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIPS



Check out these tips to warm up to savings:

- ❄️ Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees. For each degree under 68, the heating portion of your bill can decrease 4-6%.
- ❄️ Set the A/C fan to 'auto.'
- ❄️ Replace dirty A/C filters at least every three months.
- ❄️ Install a programmable thermostat to adjust the temperature automatically.
- ❄️ Keep drapes and blinds open during the day to let in the sun's heat.
- ❄️ Set your ceiling fan to run clockwise to force warmer air toward the floor.
- ❄️ Monitor electric and water consumption hourly with OUC's Usage Dashboard.
- ❄️ Set email alerts so you're notified when specific consumption thresholds are hit to keep better control of your energy costs. To access your Usage Dashboard, log in to **MyOUC.com**.



Find more winter safety and efficiency tips at [OUC.com/coldweather](https://www.ouc.com/coldweather).

OUC INVESTS IN RELIABILITY WITH SHORT-TERM BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

In October, a 4-megawatt, 8-megawatt-hour battery storage system (BESS) was installed in east St. Cloud as part of a pilot program to understand critical backup energy storage. While Florida is often called the Sunshine State, a better name is the “partly cloudy” state as Central Florida records 277 cloudy days a year. Short-term batteries can store excess electricity collected by solar panels for use on cloudy days. Batteries studied in the pilot program can store enough energy to provide emergency power to 650 homes for a month. Energy storage supports OUC’s efforts to improve the reliability of solar power as the utility moves toward its goal of net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050, with interim goals of 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2040.



UPGRADE INSULATION AND GET A REBATE!



Adding attic insulation is one of the most effective and least expensive things you can do to increase the energy efficiency of your home. OUC offers residential customers a rebate of \$0.10 per square foot for upgrading attic insulation to a final value of R-30 or greater.

Visit [OUC.com/rebates](https://www.ouc.com/rebates) for more info.

2022 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Learn more about H₂OUC via the 2022 OUC Water Quality Report at [OUC.com/wqr2022](https://www.ouc.com/wqr2022).
En español espanol.ouc.com/wqr2022.



ROCKIN' the CLOUD

2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE BLOCK PARTY!

Join us for the **8th Annual Rockin' the Cloud New Year's Eve Block Party** to welcome in the New Year. From **7 p.m. to 1 a.m., December 31**, the City of St. Cloud, in collaboration with OUC—The *Reliable One*, will host Rockin' The Cloud 2024 in Historic Downtown St. Cloud.

The block party will feature three musical performance stages located between New York and Pennsylvania Avenue. Guests can enjoy special offerings from local businesses, win commemorative event prizes, and, of course, partake in the thrilling midnight Cloud Drop countdown. Come join OUC at this memorable annual celebration!



Para ver toda nuestra información en español, por favor visite espanol.ouc.com.



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