This Month on Energy Savers: December 2010

Energy Savers Blog

We've been busy all through the holiday season on EnergySavers.gov [1] and the Energy Savers Blog [2]. Here are some highlights.

What's New or Noteworthy on Energy Savers

- 2010 marks the end of some tax credits for energy efficiency [3], while others are going strong through 2016. In addition, we're keeping a close eye on additional tax credits for 2011 – stay tuned to find out more.
- Our Stay Warm, Save Money [4] seasonal site has been updated with winter tips for keeping warm!

On the Blog, In Case You Missed It…

This Month

- New TV Guide - EnergyGuide, That Is [5]
- Remember the Batteries – and Maybe a Charger? [6]
- Tax Credits, Appliance Rebates, and the End of 2010 [7]
- Deck Those Halls! [8]
- Psst. Confess. Are YOU Guilty? [9]
- Country-Fried Biofuels [10]
- Live Chat with the EERE Information Center [11]

Weekly Questions—Did You Share Your Answer?

- How Do You Reduce the Amount of Energy Used by Your Televisions? [12]
- What Do You Think of Your LED Holiday Lights? [13]
- How Do You Reduce Energy Use from Computers and Electronics? [14]
- What Energy-Saving Gifts Are You Giving this Year? [15]
- What Improvements Have You Made for an Energy Efficiency Tax Credit? [16]

From the Archives: Careers in Energy Efficiency or Renewables

- What Kind of Green Jobs Most Interest You? [17]
- Greening Your Job: Careers in Energy [18]
- Green Living, Green Technologies: Things to Be Thankful For [19]

- Question of the Week: Are You Considering an Energy-Related Career? [20] (This one has 15 comments!)
- Energize Your Career - Educational Opportunities in Renewables and Efficiency [21]

Comment Spotlight

Rick J. commented on "What Do You Think of Your LED Holiday Lights? [13]": "I did not like them at all. They are so cold looking. Too much blue, purple and green. The whites are almost a light purple. Need to be warmer and more inviting. Should be an easy fix. Change the color of the plastic housing to offset the cooler led. I would love the energy savings and the ability to plug multiple strands together, but until they warm up the colors, I don't want to look like the Grinch lives here."

PH also commented on the post above: "I have been switching to LED's as much as possible - with holiday lights and regular lighting. LED's are GREAT! The pre-lit tree is so nice, with little star-LED's. LED's use far less power, throw very little heat and the color has been dialed in perfectly (see: CREE LE6 LR6) My eyes are sensitive and CFL and fluorescent lights end up bothering me, LED's do not do this."

Mark commented on "What Energy-Saving Gifts Are You Giving this Year? [15]": "Good timing for an energy saving article about gifts for sure! We actually picked up programmable thermostats for two of our kids with their own homes.
I know it's not much of a Christmas gift idea, but we always struggle to find unique gifts, and this presents me with an opportunity to spend a few hours with them also.
- Spend a few hours helping to install them
- Help them save energy and money year round!"

Did You Know…

- Rebates for ENERGY STAR® appliances are still available in several states and territories. If you're in the market for an appliance, check if your state is one of them [22] before you buy. Look for additional rebates and incentives (such as your utility company) on the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency [23].
- Share Energy Savers content on your own website or blog with your readers. Check out these Energy Savers widgets, as well as others from EERE [24].

Thanks for reading the blog and Web site, and stay tuned for more ways to save energy and money at home in 2011!

Andrea Spikes is a communicator at DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory, which assists EERE in providing technical content for many of its Web sites.

SOURCE [25]

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[13] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/What-Do-You-Think-of-Your-LED-Holiday-Lights.aspx
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[16] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/What-Improvements-Have-You-Made-for-an-Energy-Efficiency-Tax-Credit.aspx
[17] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/What-Kind-of-Green-Jobs-Most-Interest-You.aspx
[18] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/Greening-Your-Job-Careers-in-Energy.aspx
[19] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/Green-Living-Green-Technologies-Things-to-Be-Thankful-For.aspx
[20] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/Question-of-the-Week-Are-You-Considering-an-Energy-Related-Career.aspx
[21] http://www.eereblogs.energy.gov/energysavers/post/Energize-Your-Career-Educational-Opportunities-in-Renewables-and-Efficiency.aspx
[22] http://www.energysavers.gov/financial/70022.html
[23] http://www.dsireusa.org/

[24] http://www.eere.energy.gov/socialmedia/#widgets
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