

CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this month's lightbulb winners:

- ▶ Clint Andrews
- ▶ Gary Berry
- ▶ Fred Wells
- ▶ Wes Young
- ▶ Paul Alvarez
- ▶ Chester Baker

Contact us today for your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Choose Your Space Heater Wisely

If your home heating system does not deliver the warmth you want or you would like to dial down your thermostat to save on your energy bill, a space heater can help make up the difference. Multiple types of space heaters exist on the market, but the most important thing is to buy one that you can operate safely.

Dispose of old space heaters with exposed coils, those that are dangerous to use (e.g., worn or cracked cords) or those that operate inefficiently. Many available today have safety features that older versions do not, such as timers, tip-over prevention or auto shut-off.

Before you purchase an electric heater, determine the square footage of the space you want to warm and whether you have a safe spot to place it. Inefficient or excessively large options will only run up your electric bill without much benefit to you or your family.

Types of Space Heaters Include

METAL COIL AND FAN: Perhaps the most common and affordable type of space heater, this type uses electricity to heat a metal coil that is safely tucked inside. The fan sucks cold air from the room, heats it, and redistributes it at a higher temperature.

CERAMIC RADIANT: Similar to the metal coil variety, these space heaters also include ceramic plates inside. They absorb and store heat so that it radiates outward, even after you turn the heater off. Quick and long-lasting radiant heat

makes these some of the most efficient space heaters.

INFRARED: These larger and usually more expensive space heaters use electromagnetic waves to heat objects in the room. In other words, your furniture, walls and you are heated up safely, so the increased temperature radiates out from everything. This technology is often used in fake fireplaces.

RADIATOR-STYLE OIL: If you like the appearance of old-fashioned radiators or need something larger without a fan, consider an oil-filled space heater. An upside is that these radiate a lot of heat after they are turned off. The downside is that the unit itself can get quite hot and increase the risk of burns.

No matter what type of heater you choose, there are safety precautions you should follow. These will help prevent house fires, property damage and injury.

- ▶ Use a space heater with a minimum of 3 feet of clearance on all sides.
- ▶ Do not put a heater in a doorway or high-traffic area in the home.
- ▶ Place the heater on a flat, safe surface.
- ▶ Consider using one with built-in safety features.
- ▶ Do not plug one into an extension cord.
- ▶ Never leave a space heater unattended; unplug it and put it away when not in use.

To learn more about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

2022 CMS Scholarships Available

The CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., scholarships are six \$1,000 scholarships awarded annually to eligible applicants.

Purpose

To support development of effective leaders through educational opportunities.

Objective

To provide financial assistance to make it possible for six high school graduates based upon scholastic and extracurricular achievements to continue their education.

Scholarship Eligibility

Current high school seniors whose parents/guardians are members of CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., are eligible to apply for these scholarships. Each applicant must intend to enroll as a full-time student in an accredited university or college, including junior, community, vocational or technical college. All applicants for the CMS Electric Scholarship shall be considered on the above criteria without regard to race, age, color, religion, gender, national origin, or existence of physical handicap.

Scholarship Criteria

Scholarship merit is based on three categories: scholastic achievement, school extracurricular activities and community activities.

How to Apply

Students who wish to apply should contact the CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. office, or a CMS board trustee from within the district in which they reside to obtain application forms, or print form from the CMS website www.cmselectric.com. Completed applications must be postmarked and/or returned to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., **BY FEB. 10, 2022.**

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO: Scholarship Committee, CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 790 Meade, KS 67864

Questions about the scholarship program should be directed to Kirk A. Thompson, CMS General Manager, at 620-873-2184 or 800-794-2353.

Selection Procedure

Selection is made by the scholarship committee of CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. Applicants must be willing to be interviewed by the committee, if necessary. Decisions made by this committee shall be final. Runners-up will be selected in the event the recipient forfeits rights to the scholarship.

Payment of Scholarships

The scholarship recipients shall provide proof of college enrollment satisfactory to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc. The cooperative will then pay the institution. Should the recipient withdraw from college, payment of scholarship monies shall cease and reimbursement of unused monies shall be made to CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Conditions

In the event the scholarship recipient receives financial assistance from other sources, which would constitute a full scholarship, the recipient shall notify CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc., and relinquish rights to the scholarship. The money shall then be awarded to the runner-up, provided that person continues to meet all criteria.

**Our Crews
are Working
to Serve You
Help us keep
them safe**

- ▶ At a job site, don't ask crews what they are working on or when power will be restored. Crew members must give the repairs their full attention to ensure safety. Diverting their attention increases the amount of time it takes to resolve the issue.
- ▶ When driving by a utility truck (or any roadside vehicle with flashing lights), please move over and give them space. In a work zone, follow all signage, including speed limits. Drivers who travel through a work zone too fast endanger workers on the ground and up in the bucket.
- ▶ If one of our employees is in your yard or on an easement to address service issues, please secure your dogs. Also keep meters and pad mount transformers (green boxes) free from obstructions.
- ▶ Please be patient as we work on an outage or other issues. Safety is our top priority, for you and our employees.

