



The Grand Haven Board of Light & Power wishes you and your loved ones a merry and bright holiday season. As you prepare to decorate for the season's festivities, be sure to keep the following electrical safety tips in mind.

- Carefully check each string of lights before use. If any are cracked or damaged, discard and replace with new lights.
- Energy Star labeled LED holiday lights may help you save on electric bills. LED's use up to 90 percent less energy than standard mini lights.
- When you buy new lights, look at the box for a label that shows they have been tested for safety, such as ETL or UL.
- Follow the directions on the box. It will tell you how many strings to use together. As a rule, UL recommends using no more than three standard-size sets of lights together.
- Hang or mount light strands carefully to avoid damaging the cord's insulation.
- Do not plug in too many things at one time and use a surge protector.
- Unplug all holiday lights when you go to sleep or leave home.
- Plug outdoor decorations into outlets protected by Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) to prevent shock.
- Automatic lighting timers can be used to ensure that lights are not left on by mistake and can help save on your holiday electric bills. These are available for both indoor and outdoor use.
- Do not put electrical cords under rugs. Try to keep them away from places people walk.
- When replacing a holiday bulb, be sure to use the correct bulb size (wattage) that is right for the fixture.
- Use safety caps to keep children from putting things into electrical receptacles/outlets.

