



SAVE ENERGY—EVEN WITH A FULL HOUSE



Even with a house full of company and decorations lighting up the season, you might be able to save energy when compared to Christmases past.

Here are five small changes you can make to keep your energy use under control during the December holidays:

1. Switch to LED lights for the tree and the outside of the house. Even if your old fluorescent lights are still in pretty good shape, it might be worth it to replace them with strands of LED lights that use less energy, emit less heat and will last for years longer.
2. Put your outdoor lights on timers. There's no need to keep the lights on all night. Program timers to turn the lights on once the sun goes down and to turn them off at bedtime.

3. Don't just turn the holiday lights off; unplug them. When electric devices are plugged into the wall, they still consume small amounts of electricity, even when you turn them off. Consider investing in power strips and plug several strands into each one. That way, you don't have to unplug so many devices—you just have to unplug the power strips.

4. Mix non-electric decorations with those you have to plug in. Hang wreaths and garland. Display battery-operated candles in your windows. If you don't have to plug it in, it won't use any energy.

5. Put your crockpot and microwave to work. Your oven will be full for days as Christmas approaches. Consider slow-cooking some of your meals in a crockpot or speed-cooking side dishes in the microwave. Both use less energy than your regular oven.



Our offices and drive-thrus will be closed December 23-24 in observance of the Christmas Holiday and December 31st for the New Year's holiday.

DEBUNKING MYTHS ABOUT ELECTRICITY

When it comes to electricity, what you don't know can kill you.

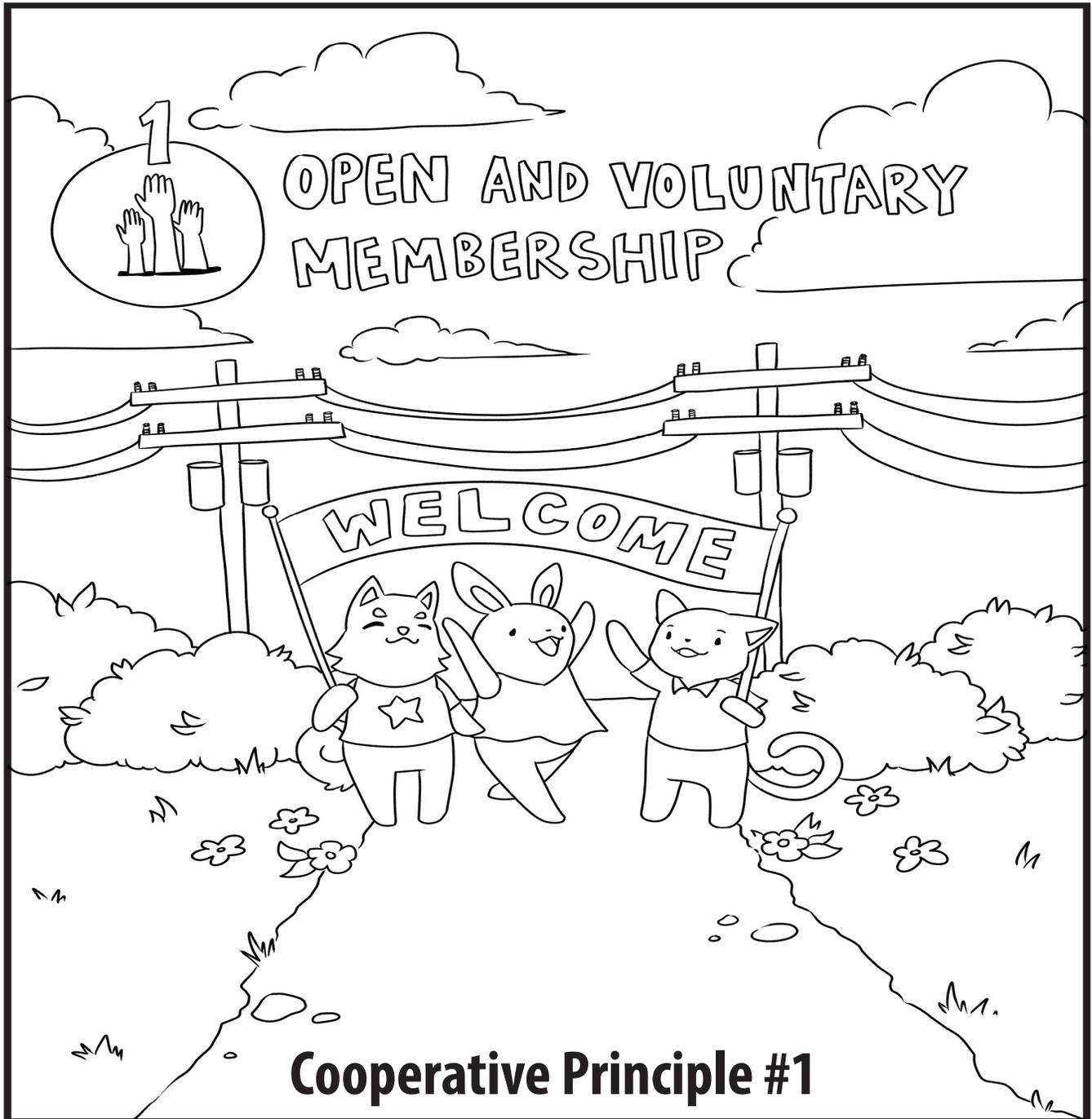
MYTH: When a power line falls on the ground, it automatically becomes dead.

TRUTH: Assume a downed line is a **live line**. You should always stay away, 40 feet or more, even if you don't see sparks. Call your electric cooperative or 911 immediately when you see a downed line so trained personnel can take care of the problem.

MYTH: Rubber gloves and rubber shoes protect you from electricity.

TRUTH: That's true only if they are **100% pure rubber with no holes or tears (the kind that electric lineworkers wear and are regularly inspected)**. The gloves a lineman wears are laboratory tested to withstand 20,000 volts. Typical cleaning gloves and shoes, which are made with rubber mixed with cheaper materials, aren't going to protect you in an electrical encounter.





Co-op membership is open to everyone who can use the co-op's services.