

Dar Eficiencia

Con las prisas de los días festivos acercándose cada año más cerca, obtener un lanzamiento en su lista de deseos compras con algunos grandes regalos verdes. Mediante los consejos a continuación, puede tener todo envuelto antes del ho, ho, ho convierte en go, go, go!

Por qué dar eficiencia? Dar verde es reflexivo en muchos niveles. La persona que recibe regalo tiene un nuevo dispositivo que utilizar para mantener bajos los costos eléctricos a largo plazo durante todo el año.

“Elegir un regalo verde puede ser fácil,” dice Brian Sloboda, senior program manager for the Cooperative Research Network (CRN). “Ser consciente del uso de la energía. Busque cualquier mención de las calificaciones de energía en televisores y electrodomésticos grandes, o seleccione regalos sin enchufes. Piense solar, reciclables. Incluso algo tan pequeñas como los paquetes y envases pueden marcar la diferencia.”

Busque artículos con envases ligeros. Y pensar en envolver su regalo en algo como bolsa de tela que se puede reutilizar o incluso un accesorio como un pañuelo para atar las cosas.

Ideas de Regalo Verdes
▶ **Para decoradores:** Las luces LED

Navidad (\$ 15-\$ 35) – Son eficientes cada vez más fáciles de encontrar. Para ahorra en facturas eléctricas durante los días festivos y permanecer frescos al tacto. Un paquete completo festivo, envolver en una decorativa media.

▶ **Para Jardineros:** Luces solares de jardín (\$ 15-\$ 50)-disponible en infinitos colores, estilos y tamaños, luces solares de jardín puede ser una adición hermosa para su favorito dedo verde. Hasta el cociente verde, envolver en una bolsa de arpiller

▶ **Para Cocineros:** Tostador horno (\$ 60-\$140) ideal para aquellos sólo cocinan para una o dos, personas es buena opción para ahorrar energía es una alternativa a la calefacción de un gran horno estándar.

▶ **Para Aficionados a la Película o los Aficionados al Deporte:** ENERGY STAR TV-calificación (precio según tamaño) –Televisión son cada vez más grande y mejor. Pero antes de entregar algo que utiliza tanto electricidad como una nevera, busque la etiqueta ENERGY STAR. Se ofrecerá el menor impacto en sus facturas eléctricas posibles.

▶ **Para Técnicos:**
▶ **Smart strip** (\$ 20-\$40)–Esto nuevo es ideal para conectar

aparatos electrónicos. No su franja de potencia media, tiras inteligente designadas facilitan el apague a ciertos dispositivos para ahorrar energía mientras no afecten a otros enchufado en la misma franja.

▶ **Cargador Solar de Teléfono** (\$55-\$100+) –Ayuda desconectar los cargadores chupando energía desde la pared; cargadores solares pueden ser colocados en una ventana para cargar un teléfono móvil u otros dispositivos como una unidad GPS o incluso reproductores de MP3 en cualquier lugar el sol brilla, incluso en un coche!

Hay muchas opciones al iniciar buscar regalos verdes. Ser creativo y recordar que lo que da impactara las facturas eléctricas en el futuro. Por lo tanto dar luz verde es inteligente dar para regalos este año!

Kelly Trapnell escribe en las escrituras en cuestiones de eficiencia de energía y seguridad para el Nacional Eléctric Rural Cooperative Asociación, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for profit electric cooperatives.

Christmas Parade of Lights and Chili Cook-off

Get ready, the Christmas Parade of Lights and Chili Cook-off, sponsored by Victory Electric, *Dodge City Daily Globe* and Western Beverage, on November 28 in downtown Dodge City. More information can be found on Victory Electric's website and in the *Dodge City Daily Globe*.

Victory Electric Closed for Thanksgiving

Victory Electric will be closed on November 24 and 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Victory Electric, the general manager, board of trustees, and employees wish all of our members a Happy Thanksgiving.

Visit our Website & Join us on Facebook



Visit our website at www.victoryelectric.net. On our website, you will find a calendar of events, frequently asked questions, bill pay and energy calculators—just to name a few tools!

You can also become a fan of Victory Electric on Facebook at facebook.com/VictoryElectric or by searching for The Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. Check our page for updates, outage information and energy efficiency tips. Facebook is a great way to stay in touch with our members.

Why Buy Local?

Why buy local? There are numerous benefits to buying local. First, when those coveted big businesses look to building or locating in a city or town, they look at the statistics of how many people buy local. Ford County has total retail sales of \$484.7 million, and compared to other towns and counties approximately the same size, Ford County doesn't do as well.

In Finney County (Garden City), they have total retail sales of \$680.7 million, almost \$200 million more in sales than in Dodge City. Great Bend and Liberal do approximately the same in total retail sales, but they have approximately 2,000 less households than Dodge City.

Therefore, towns like Garden City, which is approximately the same size as Dodge City, will attract more businesses because they draw in more local buyers.

Another important fact that many forget when they travel is the cost to travel to those places. Using Wichita and Garden City as examples, using the calculation (IRS mileage rate x the miles) + (average Ford County

hourly wage x time to drive), the average person is spending almost \$17 going to Garden City and \$57 going to Wichita, without even opening your wallet at a store.

In an article in the Chamber Executive Convention 2009, Dennis Lauver, president and CEO of the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce, listed five key benefits to buying local, those include:

- ▶ Save money and time when you shop near home.
- ▶ Keep money in our own economy.
- ▶ Build our schools and cities (*assuming a local option sales tax*).
- ▶ Provide property tax relief (*assuming a local option sales tax*).
- ▶ Keep family and friends employed in your community.

We will continue to feature a local business in this newsletter on a quarterly basis showcasing your options in Dodge City and Ford County.

Victory Electric encourages you to shop local and in the future be more competitive to receive new businesses in town.

DON'T MESS WITH YOUR SAFETY!
CALL VICTORY ELECTRIC'S ELECTRICIAN SERVICE TODAY!



If you are worried about your safety or have an electrical problem, Victory Electric's Electrician Service is here to meet your needs. Our qualified electricians do residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural work. Call Jim Mies today for more information.

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FROM THE MANAGER

Supporting Our Youngest Members

At Victory Electric, we talk a lot about the services we provide to you, our members—convenient billing options, electrician services; and fun events like our annual meeting, health fair, Pumpkin Painting and Carving Festival, and many others. But many of our value-added benefits are directed at a younger audience—children.

It's important that we support our youngest members, not only to enrich their lives, but also to instill in them the importance of coop membership. After all, they will one day become community and possibly coop leaders.

For high school juniors, we offer the annual Rural Electric Youth Tour, where we send two students to Washington, D.C., on a week-long educational excursion every June. We also send two students to Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO. Victory is preparing to select the four student winners for the 2012 trips. If you have a child or friend interested in attending, please contact our office for more information.

For children of all ages, we provide safety demonstrations.

Just this year, Victory Electric employees went to Cimarron schools to teach kids about electrical safety. These safety demonstrations are available to anyone and please contact Victory if you would like us to come to your school or event.

Outreach with youth and improving the quality of life in the communities we serve is just one more way Victory Electric looks out for you.



Terry Janson



Claire Leis of Minneola, left, and Norma Avalos of Dodge City, right, attended the 2011 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Colorado.

“After all, they will one day become community and possibly coop leaders.”

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Victory Electric Bill Payment Options

Victory Electric has several convenient options for you, the member, to pay your bill.

In addition to paying in our office or by mail, options include online bill pay at www.victoryelectric.net, drop boxes at Victory Electric and City of Dodge City, and a pay station at Mr. Payroll, 400 E Wyatt Earp.

CFL Charlie Says "Come Get Your Free CFL!"



This month's lucky winners are... Irene Wade, Mark Vogler, Rex Schoen, Ron Jantz, Andy Friesen, Maria Castillo, Alma Bencomo, Martha Gilbert, Marisa Rendon, and Duan Nietling.

Come by Victory Electric Cooperative and get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). Every month Victory Electric will be giving members free CFL light bulbs. Congratulations winners!

Giving Efficiency

With the holiday rush starting earlier and earlier every year, get a jump-start on your shopping wish list with some great green gifts. Using the tips below, you can have everything wrapped up before the ho, ho, ho turns into go, go, go!

Why give efficiency?

Green giving is thoughtful on many levels. The person receiving the gift has a new gadget to use that keep long-term electric costs low year-round.

"Choosing a green gift can be easy," says Brian Sloboda, senior program manager for the Cooperative Research Network (CRN). "Be aware of energy use. Look for any mention of energy ratings on large appliances and televisions, or select unplugged gifts. Think solar, reusable, and recyclable. Even something as small as the packaging and wrapping can make a difference."

Look for items with light-weight packaging. And think about wrapping your gift in something like fabric bag that can be reused or even an accessory like a scarf to tie things up.

Green Gift Ideas

► **For Decorators:** LED Christmas lights (\$15-\$35)—These energy-efficient lights are becoming easier to find. They save on high holiday electric bills and stay cool to the touch. For a festive complete package, wrap in a decorative stocking.

► **For Gardeners:** Solar garden lights (\$15-\$50)—Available in endless colors, styles, and sizes, solar garden lights can be a lovely addition to your favorite green thumb's garden. To up the green quotient, wrap in a burlap bag.

► **For Cooks:** Toaster oven (\$60-\$140)—Especially great for the

empty nester or those only cooking for one or two, toaster ovens are a good choice to save energy as an alternative to heating a large standard oven.

► **For Movie Buffs or Sports Fans:** ENERGY STAR-rated TV (price based on size)—Televisions are getting bigger and better. But before you give something that uses as much electricity as a refrigerator, look for the ENERGY STAR label.

For Techies:

► **Smart strip (\$20 - \$40)**—This new cutting-edge technology is great for plugging in electronic gadgets. Not your average power strip, smart strips sport designated outlets that make it easy to power down certain devices to save energy while not affecting others plugged into the same strip.

► **Solar cell phone charger (\$55 - \$100+)**—Help unplug energy-sucking chargers from the wall; solar chargers can be placed in a window to charge a cell phone or other devices like a GPS unit or even MP3 players anywhere the sun shines, even in a car on-the-go!

There are many options when you start looking for green gifts. Get creative, and remember that what you give impacts future electric bills. So give the green light for energy-smart gifts this year!

Kelly Trapnell writes on safety and energy efficiency issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

4th Annual Victory Electric Health Fair a Success Hundreds attend health fair for free services

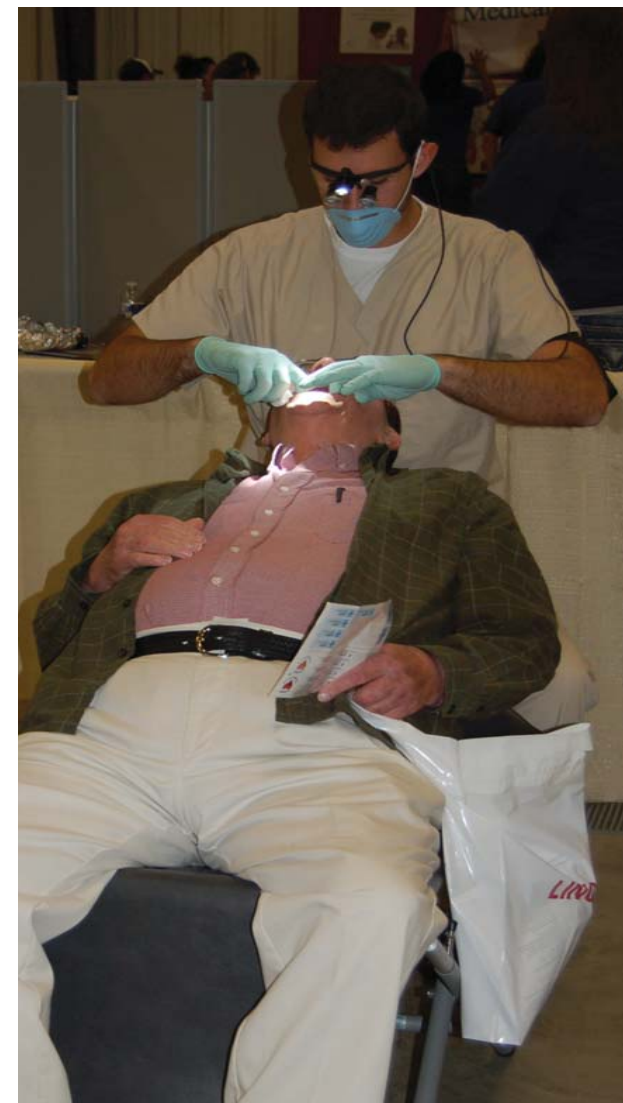
Victory Electric and our many partners successfully hosted the 4th Annual Victory Electric Community Health Fair on October 1.

More than 65 doctors, healthcare professionals and vendors from the area graciously donated their time and expertise to offer free services to the hundreds of attendees of the health fair.

Services offered at this year's fair included free eye autorefraction screenings, blood pressure checks, skin cancer screenings, pap smears, prostate exams, oral cancer screenings, spinal screenings, car seat safety inspections, massages, hearing tests, \$15 flu shots, and \$10 complete blood screens. To put everything in perspective, 282 complete blood screens were completed; 103 skin cancer screenings, 104 pap smears, 151 breast exams, 20 full hearing tests, 340 flu shots 60 oral cancer screenings, 47 youth fluoride treatments, and 16 prostate exams. Of all of those screenings, several cases of cancer were found.

We would like to thank all those who assisted in the planning and organization of the event; you were an invaluable resource. Also, thank you to the 85 volunteers from the community who came out to help us keep everything running smoothly. We could not have hosted the health fair without you.

Left: Lifeteam's Clay Cox helps child out of the helicopter. Right, Dentist, Ryan Lehmkueler, screens for oral cancer.



Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors, Dodge City Medical Center, Dodge City Public Schools, Western Plains Medical Complex, Cargill, Dodge City Community College, Phillips Chiropractic, Mexican American Ministries, Ambucs, Peterson Labs, Dodge City Daily Globe, Rocking M Radio, El Mexicano Auto Sales, Tianguis Carniseria, Tortilleria Panaderia Madero, and American Family Insurance. We would also like to give a special thanks to Melissa McCoy, Kelly Stecklein, and Debbie Bush for all their hard work and dedication.

Victory Electric is already looking forward to the 5th Annual Community Health Fair, and we hope to see everyone there.

1. Dodge City Medical Center checks blood sugar. 2. The volunteers from Victory Electric are pictured with Dr. Amawi and Gene Dole, both of the Medical Center. 3. Dodge City Community College nursing students helped draw blood. 4. Approximately 1,200 people attended the 4th Annual Victory Electric Community Health Fair.

