



DPU Scoop



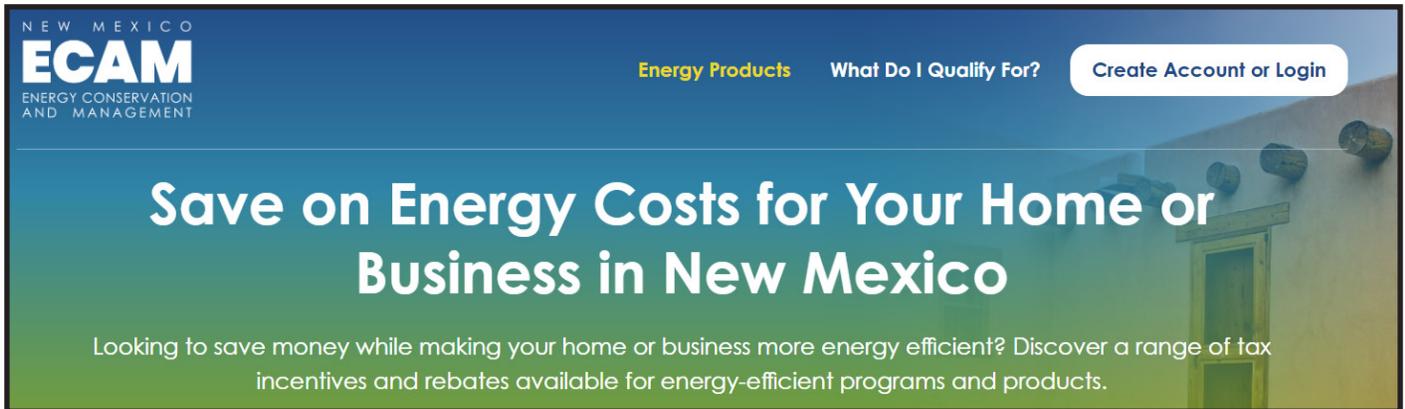
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CONSERVATION

Have You Signed Up for Rebates?

The New Mexico Division of Energy Conservation and Management (ECAM) is actively rolling out rebate programming. The best way to stay on top of what is available is to create an account through the ECAM website AND either submit an application with your potential improvements (insulation, doors, etc.), OR sign up to receive emails when the programs are released. ECAM also has information on tax credits within each efficiency improvement. It's a one-stop-shop! Find the website at clean.energy.nm.gov.



If you are unsure how to sign up or don't have the right equipment to make that application happen, DPU will be partnering with the local senior centers and libraries to provide signup assistance days in January.

DPU is prohibited, per the New Mexico Constitution, from providing rebates for efficiency practices. The ECAM programs are made possible by Inflation Reduction Act funding, which provides tax credits and rebates through 2032. We are updating our website to provide a clearinghouse of resources (from research to calculators to informative webinars) to help give you a starting point. Check out ladpu.com/Efficiency on the web.

Never Feed Wildlife

Did you know feeding wildlife can have negative impacts on an entire ecosystem? You may have the best intentions when you want to share food with the squirrels and deer, but feeding wildlife is dangerous.

Human foods are not healthy for wild animals. Animals that eat our snacks can get full from the wrong foods and stop eating the nutrients they need to survive. They can stop hunting, foraging or scavenging as they would naturally.

Depending on humans for food is called food conditioning, which is dangerous for animals because it can lead to serious consequences like getting sick or starving, or even having to be killed if they become too aggressive.

What You Can Do?

- Be a smart wildlife watcher and help keep wildlife wild.
- Never feed the wildlife.
- Store your food and stash your trash. Don't unintentionally feed wildlife by leaving trash or crumbs behind. Make sure



to clean up after yourself after meals and practice leave-no-trace principles.

- Give the animals room. Always keep a safe distance when watching wildlife.

To learn more about mule deer and living with other wildlife, visit the County website at www.lacnm.com/wildlife.

Essential Tips for Safe Extension Cord Use

Extension cords are a common cause of home fires and should not be used to permanently wire electrical devices in your home. Here are some key guidelines to consider before you purchase and use extension cords.

- Be mindful of how you are using electrical outlets. If you're using extension cords or adapters that add receptacles, consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home.
- Purchase cords from authorized retailers. Look for certification labels showing recognized testing laboratories such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), CSA or ETL.
- Verify that the extension cord is suitable for its intended use (indoor or outdoor) and has the correct gauge wire to handle the required amperage.
- Even if the cord is approved for outdoor use, keep outdoor extension cords away from snow, water and the elements.
- Do not overload extension cords!



- Never use extension cords for high-power appliances such as microwaves, air conditioners or space heaters.
- Inspect cords before each use and replace them if they are damaged. Do not try to fix a damaged extension cord.
- Don't run cords through confined areas. Heat can build up, creating risk of fire.
- Avoid pinching cords in doors and windows, and never staple extension cords.
- Avoid high-traffic areas. Extension cords can pose tripping hazards.
- Only use extension cords that have three-prongs.
- Take extra care during the holidays. Never hang extension cords from metal trees and clean out your gutters before hanging string lights.

As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart!



Never use frayed light strings. Throw them into the trash instead.

Never put fireplace ashes straight into your trash can. Put them into a metal bucket, place it at least 10 feet from your house, and then spray it with water first.

Keep real trees watered. Your Christmas tree should be at least 3 ft from any heat source.

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