

# Beyond the lines

Carroll Electric exists to serve our members with safe, reliable, and convenient electricity at the lowest possible cost.

## Be Careful when Tackling Home Wiring Projects

If you have finally committed to a home remodeling project, be sure to thoroughly research what your project might involve before heading to the nearest hardware store. While even small do-it-yourself (DIY) projects can be very satisfying to complete, they pose risks, especially when they involve electricity.

Mistakes can be costly—or even deadly. If you're not trained to work with wiring and electricity, the first and best safety tip is to call in an expert rather than be your own electrician. Never attempt an electrical project that is beyond your skill level.

For a better understanding of typical DIY wiring mistakes, let's look at a few of the most common:

Working with a live wire – Thousands of DIYers receive electric shock injuries each year. It may seem perfectly obvious, but to avoid becoming a statistic, always turn off the circuit breaker (or remove the

fuse) before working on or replacing electrical equipment.

Using the wrong lightbulb – Most lighting fixtures feature a sticker on the socket that advises the proper type and maximum wattage of the lightbulb to use. Installing a differ-



ent type of bulb, or one with higher wattage could damage the lights and cause a fire. There's a good reason fixtures are rated for certain wattages.

Not being grounded – For optimal safety, receptacles should be wired with the proper grounding and polarity. Generally, three-pronged outlets signify an effective ground path in the circuit. However, homes built before the mid-1960s probably don't have a grounding path, and simply replacing the existing outlet with a three-pronged outlet won't give you one. Wiring with a grounding path usually sports a copper grounding wire with the cable. If you are uncertain

about whether your home's wiring is grounded, inexpensive UL-listed outlet circuit testers are available to check for proper grounding and polarity. If your outlet is improperly grounded, call an electrician before moving forward in any project.

Splicing – Always make sure your wiring size and type match. Splicing wires by simply twisting them together and covering them with electrical tape is rarely a good idea. Instead, use wiring suitable to your home's wiring and place wiring connections in metal or plastic boxes to decrease fire risk.

Go ahead and move forward with your project. Just know, research and planning can mean the difference between success and satisfaction or failure and frustration... or worse. Carroll Electric is here to provide SAFE electricity and to encourage safe work practices for all our members.



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Mission statement

## 2015 Scholarship Recipients

Carroll Electric is proud to award scholarships to these high school seniors in northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri. The accomplishments of these students have given them a good foundation on which to build a successful future!

<b>Shelby Stowe</b>	Ambassadors for Christ Academy
<b>Beatrice Becerra</b>	Bentonville High School
<b>Ciera Foster</b>	Berryville High School
<b>Johnathan Williams</b>	Blue Eye High School
<b>Matthew Vermillion</b>	Cassville High School
<b>Victor Urquidi</b>	Decatur High School
<b>Brandon Willis</b>	Deer High School
<b>Allan Gammill</b>	Eureka Springs High School
<b>Baeley Beyers</b>	Gentry High School
<b>Drew Roberts</b>	Green Forest High School
<b>Dana Jo Coston</b>	Har-Ber High School
<b>Rashi Ghosh</b>	Harrison High School
<b>Albert Perez</b>	Heritage High School
<b>Alex Edmisten</b>	Huntsville High School
<b>Natalie Tatar</b>	Jasper High School
<b>Kristin Johnson</b>	Kingston High School
<b>Andrew Ricketts</b>	Mt. Judea High School
<b>Ashton Fisher</b>	Ozark Adventist Academy
<b>Lindsey Bush</b>	Pea Ridge High School
<b>Emily Siemens</b>	Providence Academy
<b>Lauren Harrell</b>	Rogers High School
<b>Andrew Smith</b>	Western Grove High School
<b>Zachary Douglas</b>	Valley Springs High School
<b>Megan Koontz</b>	Home School
<b>Rebekah Lawler</b>	Home School

### Bacon Ranch Potato Salad

2 pounds red potatoes, cut into bite-sized pieces  
1 (16 oz) container sour cream  
1 (1 oz) package ranch dressing mix  
1 1/4 cups cooked bacon, crumbled  
1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese  
2 bunches green onions, thinly sliced

Place potatoes into a large pot and cover with salted water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until tender, about 20 minutes. Drain, then run under cold water until cool.

Combine the sour cream and ranch dressing mix in a small bowl until well-blended. Transfer the potatoes, bacon, cheddar cheese, and green onions to a large bowl. Stir in the sour cream mixture until well-coated. Cover and refrigerate for two hours before serving.

Serves: 8  
Prep Time: 5 min.  
Cook Time: 20 min.  
Ready In: 2 hrs. 25 min.



## Scream for Fun

Roller coasters are designed for experiencing excitement and thrills, inciting shrieks and laughter. Roller coasters are not thrilling when your electric bill seems to be on that tallest peak during very hot (or cold) seasonal spikes. When you open a higher bill, the shrieks may sound similar to a theme park ride,



but the emotion is not even close to feeling the same. Why not let Carroll Electric's free Levelized Billing program help calm your nerves all year long? Those high and low bills are averaged out and you pay just about the same amount every month. It's a lot easier on the budget and you can save your screams for the next trip to the theme park! Inquire now at 800-432-9720.



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