

Taylor Report



NOV. 2025

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Home Lighting 101



Less daylight hours means the lights come on earlier in the evening. Lighting is something most of us don't think much about—until it's wrong. Maybe the living room feels too dim for reading, or the kitchen lights cast an odd yellow glow. We often grab whatever bulb or fixture looks good without considering how it will actually perform in the space. But with a little planning, you can make your home brighter, cozier and more energy efficient.

Watts vs. Lumens

When you're shopping for lightbulbs, it's easy to focus on watts, but watts only measure how much energy a bulb uses. When it comes to brightness, what really matters is the lumen count. Lumens measure the actual light output. For example, an 800-lumen bulb gives off about the same amount of light as an old-fashioned 60-watt incandescent bulb. (You've likely replaced all incandescent bulbs with long-lasting, energy efficient LEDs, but if not—it's time to make the switch!)

A helpful rule of thumb: higher lumens mean brighter light, while lower watts mean less energy consumed. Remember to check wattage ratings for fixtures and only install bulbs that meet the fixture's wattage safety requirements.

Color Temperature and Consistency

Light bulbs also vary in color temperature, which ranges from warm yellow to cool white or even bluish tones. This detail often gets overlooked—until you replace one bulb and notice the new light doesn't quite match the others. If mismatched tones drive you crazy, consider buying and installing bulbs of the same brand and wattage in a room at the same time. That way, the look stays consistent, and you won't be stuck hunting for a perfect match later.

Dimmers and Switches

Installing dimmers instead of standard on/off switches can be a game changer. Dimmers give you more control over brightness, help save energy and create a more comfortable atmosphere. Not all bulbs are dimmable, so double check labels before buying.

While you're thinking about switches, consider whether you have enough of them—and in the right places. A light you can only turn off from one end of a hallway quickly becomes annoying. For new installations or upgrades, it's best to hire a licensed electrician to ensure everything is wired safely and efficiently.

Fixtures: Form Meets Function

Bulbs are only part of the equation—fixtures matter too. Each type serves a purpose. Ambient lighting, like sconces or glass-covered ceiling fixtures, provides general illumination. Task lighting, like pendants, desk lamps or track lighting, focuses light where you need it most.

When choosing a fixture, think beyond looks. Ask yourself: does this light provide the right amount of brightness for the space? A beautiful chandelier might look perfect over the dining table but leave the rest of the room too dim. Alternatively, an oversized fixture could flood the room with more light than you need, wasting both energy and money.

Smart Lighting: Energy Efficiency Meets Convenience

Smart lighting adds another layer of control for illuminating your home. But the real magic is convenience. With smart bulbs, you can adjust brightness, set schedules or even change colors—all from your phone or a voice assistant like Alexa or Google Assistant. Want the lights to dim automatically for movie night? Or to turn on before you get home? Smart bulbs make it easy.

Smart lighting also lets you personalize your space. You can go classic with warm white tones or experiment with colors to set the mood—anything from a soft glow for winding down to vibrant hues for a party. Remember, smart bulbs still rely on power from your wall switch, which needs to stay in the "on" position for remote controls to work. If you prefer using a physical switch, consider pairing smart bulbs with a smart light switch. Many of today's smart switches also come with motion detectors, adding another level of efficiency and convenience.

Good lighting doesn't just make your home look better—it makes it feel better too. With a little planning, you can create spaces that are welcoming, functional and energy efficient. Whether you stick to traditional bulbs and fixtures or explore the flexibility of smart lighting, thoughtful choices today will brighten your home for years to come.

VETERAN'S DAY—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

**Taylor Electric salutes the men and women
serving in the military—past, present, and
future.**

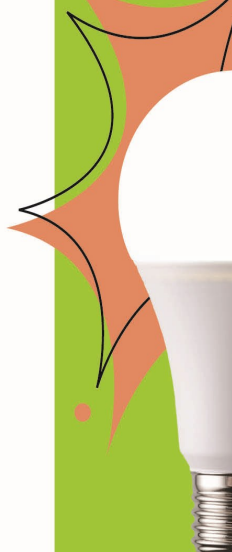
**Thank you for your dedication and commitment
to our great country!**

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

TIP OF THE MONTH

With the holiday season approaching and more time spent in the kitchen, consider ways to save energy in the heart of your home. When possible, cook meals with smaller, energy efficient appliances, such as toaster ovens, slow cookers and air fryers. When using the range, match the size of the pan to the heating element. Keep range-top burners and reflectors clean so they reflect heat more efficiently. After your holiday meals are complete, load the dishwasher fully before starting the wash cycle.

Source: [energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)



LOAD MANAGEMENT TESTING

The winter test for Interruptible Heat (Dual Fuel) members is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19th. This test is designed to provide you with the opportunity to observe your control device, ensure that the indicator lights on your load-control receiver function properly, and check that your heating system and/or backup heating system is working properly before winter sets in. Residential interruptible heat load classes will be controlled as follows: Control Start — All Interruptible Heat load classes will begin at 7 a.m. Restoral — All loads will be restored by noon. If you notice any problems with the load-management receiver during this test, please contact the cooperative at 715-678-2411. If you find that your heating system does not work as it should, contact your electrician or heating service representative.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The office will closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th. We wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend!

Board Reports - August & September 2025

August

- Approved July disbursements totaling \$523,742. 15 new member applications, and July 2025 construction in the amount of \$58,024.
- Reviewed financial results for July with \$431,539 Operating Margins and \$493,308 Total Margins year to date.
- There were 15 outages in July, with an average YTD outage time per meter of 0.1695 hours.
- One application for discounted early retirement of capital credits to estates was approved with total capital credits of \$669 to be paid out at the net present value of \$345.
- Approval to retire 2002 and 2003 TEC capital credits and 1997 and part of 1998 DPC capital credits totaling over \$330,000 going back to the members.
- 37 delinquent accounts were processed for collection following the August 20th due date. The total amount owing on these accounts is \$15,146.
- Other topics covered included setting June 23, 2026 as the date for the 2026 Annual Meeting, YLC attendee review, DPC activities, and discussion on solar net metering.

September

- Approved August disbursements totaling \$388,065. 16 new member applications, and August 2025 construction in the amount of \$137,627.
- Reviewed financial results for August with \$492,719 Operating Margins and \$556,922 Total Margins year to date.
- There were 15 outages in August, with an average YTD outage time per meter of 0.2065 hours.
- Two applications for discounted early retirement of capital credits to estates were approved with total capital credits of \$876 to be paid out at the net present value of \$437.
- 26 delinquent accounts were processed for collection following the September 20th due date. The total amount owing on these accounts is \$12,397.
- Other topics covered included using the spent nuclear fuel settlement to offset PCA charges for the remainder of the year, approval of 4 policy changes, and annual salary review.