

Holiday lighting, City of Ogdensburg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Contact:

Matt Denner, Building and Grounds Forman, mdenner@twcny.rr.com

Phone: 315-393-2300

Agency Contact:

Gayle Nowak (gayle@haggman.com)

Phone: 978-525-3742

NYSERDA Contact:

Nancy Norman (njn@nyserda.org)

Phone: 866-NYSERDA ext. 3414

www.GetEnergySmart.org

**Ogdensburg lights up the holidays with energy-efficient LED
decorative light strings**

*NYSERDA helps cities and towns across New York to use energy efficient lights for
holiday displays*

Ogdensburg, NY – December 13, 2008: With help from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Ogdensburg is making the holiday season a little

greener by investing in energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) decorative lights to complement its festive decorations.

Ogdensburg will use a combination of 2,000 C7 and C9 energy efficient LED decorative lights on its City Hall holiday display, purchased from Downtown Decorations based in Syracuse. With decorations lit from the end of November until after the New Year, the LED holiday lights will save the City over \$550 in energy costs each year. Each LED bulb will draw less than 1 watt of power, saving more than 3,600 kWh in less than three months of use.

“The City will see significant savings within the first year, and certainly many years to come. This type of investment is certainly a positive step in our direction of finding ways to conserve energy without compromising the services we provide,” said Kit W. Smith, Director of Public Works. “We thank NYSERDA for their assistance in our endeavors and look forward to our residents enjoying the city holiday lighting for many years to come,” added Buildings and Grounds Foreman Matt Denner.

Ogdensburg is using commercial grade LEDs to decorate the town, but this year consumers can find ENERGY STAR[®] qualified LED decorative light strings for their homes. ENERGY STAR qualified LED decorative light strings last up to 10 times longer and use 75 percent less energy than traditional incandescent strands. They produce almost no heat, last for up to 11 seasons, will not overload indoor or outdoor circuits, and come in a variety of shapes, lengths and colors. LED decorative light strings are constructed with solid-state chips that convert electricity into light without using a filament or glass bulb, which makes the lights more durable and shock-resistant than traditional light strings.

“Using energy efficient LED decorative light strings will help Ogdensburg save energy and reduce costs for years to come,” said Bob Callender, Vice President for Programs at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). “These long-lasting lights are a smart way for all New Yorkers to celebrate the holidays efficiently and help the State reach its goal of reducing electricity consumption 15 percent by 2015.”

New York residents also can save over \$30 this holiday season by decorating their homes with a variety of energy efficient lighting choices that are easy, safe, and last longer than traditional holiday lighting. Other holiday lighting options include:

- **Fiber optic holiday lights** – These cool-to-the-touch lights are a good choice for paths, trees, decks, patios and vaulted ceilings because fiber optic cables make it easier to access and maintain lights in hard-to-reach areas.
- **Rope lights** – These lights last more than 20,000 hours and make a safe choice for decorating trees, doors and windows.
- **ENERGY STAR Candelabra Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)** – These CFLs use about 75 percent less energy, produce the same lumens, and generally last 10 times longer than the average incandescent bulb. They can be used in candlesticks and menorahs instead of an open flame.

For a list of statewide retailers that sell energy efficient lighting products, visit www.GetEnergySmart.org or call toll-free 1-877-NY-SMART.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) uses innovation and technology to solve some of New York's most difficult energy and environmental problems in ways that improve the State's economy.

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