

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Village of Lancaster saves energy with new energy efficient
LED decorative light strings**

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

Lancaster, NY – December 3, 2008: With help from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the Village of Lancaster is making the holiday season a little greener by investing in energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) decorative light strings to complement its festive decorations.

The Village of Lancaster will use 12,000 C7 LED bulbs on trees and buildings and for snowflakes and garlands that will be lit on each Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from November 29 through January 4. The energy efficient LED decorative light strings will save the Village about approximately 8,335 kilowatt-hours in electricity and \$1,300 each year they are used. The Village purchased the lights from John Deere, distributor for Winterland, Inc., in Cheektowaga, NY.

“The Village of Lancaster has decorated its Central Business District for many years. We are very proud to use LED lighting technology, reducing energy cost, and adding years to the life of the equipment,” said Village of Lancaster Deputy Mayor Bill Schroeder. “We hope to be able to add to the displays with the cost savings each year.”

In addition to commercial grade LEDs for downtown decorations, ENERGY STAR® qualified LED decorative light strings are available to consumers who want to decorate their homes and still save energy. 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 other light strings.

“Using energy efficient LED decorative light strings will help the Village of Lancaster save energy and reduce costs for years to come,” said Bob Callender, Vice President for Programs for 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 can also 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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