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### Activities and Events

Environmental Advocacy  
Environmental Education  
Groundwater Protection  
Endangered Species Faire  
Bidwell Park Cleanups  
Chico Area Creek Cleanups  
Community Gardens  
Chico Bicycle Music Festival

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## PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2016

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## Holiday Light Exchange Swapping Old Lights for New Holiday Savings

**Chico, CA** – Swap your old Christmas lights for new LED set this Holiday season with Butte Environmental Council. Join BEC at one of three upcoming community events and get a new LED light set (limit one box per person) when you bring us your old set of incandescent lights.

Each year Americans spend an extra \$233 million on electricity bills during the holiday season. This holiday season BEC and Energy Upgrade CA is helping you make the switch to energy efficient LED holiday lights with the Holiday Light Exchange. LED lights last ten times longer and are 75% more efficient than incandescent strands. During the Holiday Light Exchange new LED lights for free when you bring your old incandescent lights to swap.

**Not only do LED holiday lights save energy and money and help you enjoy a bright holiday season, they have many other benefits as well!**

LED holiday lights are now widely available at most retailers. Costs vary depending on the size, number of lights, and added features. A string of 35 basic LED lights costs around \$10. ENERGY STAR® qualified LED lighting uses up to 75 percent less energy than incandescent lighting, and they are:

- Longer Lasting: LED holiday lights may last up to 20 holiday seasons.
- More Durable: The LED lenses are made from epoxy and not glass, which make them more resistant to breaking.
- Guaranteed: ENERGY STAR® qualified lighting comes with a minimum three-year warranty.
- Safer: LED lights don't get hot like incandescent bulbs, which reduce the chances of burning yourself or starting fires.
- Easier to Install: Since LEDs use little energy, you can plug up to 25 strings end to end without overloading the socket.
- More Convenient: Some indoor models can be dimmed and some outdoor models include automatic daylight shut-off and motion sensors.

Make the switch to LED this holiday season:

- Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> - Farmer Market (9am-12pm) - 2<sup>nd</sup> & Wall St, Chico
- Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Preview (4-8pm) - Downtown Chico
- Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> - Community Christmas Tree Lighting (6-8pm) - Chico City Plaza

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**Butte Environmental Council** is a non-profit environmental organization based in Chico, California. BEC's mission is to protect and defend the land, air, and water of Butte County and the surrounding regions through action, advocacy and education. Since 1975, BEC is a significant voice in shaping the environment and policies of Butte County and surrounding areas.

For more information on BEC, visit [www.becnet.org](http://www.becnet.org)

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**Energy Upgrade California**<sup>®</sup> is a state initiative to help Californians take action to save energy and conserve natural resources, help reduce demand on the electricity grid, and make informed energy management choices at home and at work. It is supported by an alliance of the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Energy Commission, utilities, regional energy networks, local governments, businesses, and nonprofits to help communities meet state and local energy and climate action goals. Funding comes from investor-owned utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

For more information on Energy Upgrade CA, or to see other ways you can make your home more efficient and save money, visit [www.energyupgradeca.org](http://www.energyupgradeca.org)