## Tips for staying safe and warm with space heaters

Don't let your efforts to stay warm put your safety at risk. Here are a few tips for safely using space heaters:

- Read and follow all space heater instructions.
- Check space heaters before use. Cords should not be frayed, brittle, or cracked.
- Turn off space heaters when not in use.
- Choose a space heater with a UL, ETL, or CSA safety certification.
- Look for a space heater that has guards from heating elements and automatically shuts off if it is tipped over.
- Space heaters should be kept at least 3 feet from blankets, clothing, paper, and other flammables.
- Place space heaters out of high-traffic areas and on a level, hard, non-flammable floor surface—NOT on carpets, furniture, or countertops.
- Do not attempt to warm your entire home using space heaters. Space heaters are useful in small areas, such as a study or living room. However, if you need to keep large areas warm, your home heating system will do the job more efficiently.

Contact Butler County REC with electrical safety questions: 888.267.2726.