

Natural Gas Prices and Money Saving Energy Ideas

Dear Valued Customer,

It's late summer and it's still warm outside. The last thing on your mind right now is winter heating bills. But there's some important information you need to know:

Your natural gas prices increased approximately 10% effective 7/1/04.

This means that your natural gas bills could be higher this coming winter. Hopefully, the conservation information provided here, well ahead of the winter heating season, gives you plenty of time in advance to make changes in your natural gas usage, and help you better manage your natural gas energy costs.

This information is also available on our website
www.intgas.com



While you're logged in, be sure to watch the natural gas energy conservation tips video by clicking on the [energy conservation](#) link on our home page.

MONEY SAVING ENERGY IDEAS

Space Heating

- **Turn down your thermostat at bedtime,** and when your home is unoccupied while you're at work or school. Set it for 68 degrees while you are home and 64 degrees or less at night or when you are away. Reductions of 4 degrees at these times can make a significant difference.
- **In homes heated and cooled with forced air systems,** an automatic setback thermostat is a good investment. Once programmed, it will automatically adjust the temperature settings for you.



- **Remember to change or clean furnace filters regularly,** generally once per month.

Furnaces consume less energy if they "breathe" more easily.

- **Be careful not to block heating registers.** Move furniture away from registers to allow heat to flow freely.
- If you have rooms that are not being used, consider closing the heating registers and doors. **However, be sure not to close more than one-third of the total heating registers in your home, as it may cause the furnace to cycle more frequently, and may restrict proper air movement in your home.**



Water Heating

- **Set your thermostat** on your water heater at mid-range or lower. Extremely hot water can lead to scalding accidents. Maintaining a higher-than-necessary temperature uses energy needlessly.
- **Fix leaky faucets:** A hot water tap, dripping once every second, can waste the equivalent of a bathtub of hot water each month.

Use appliances such as dishwashers, washing machines, and clothes dryers only when they are full.

- **When replacing older appliances,** consider replacing them with high-efficiency models. They use less energy, which will save you money.

Fireplaces

- **Consider models with tempered glass** doors and a heat-air exchange system that blows warmed air back into the room. An **open fireplace** is not an efficient heating source. Most of the heat will go up the flue and out the chimney.

- **Make sure your fireplace is properly vented.** Fireplaces require a great deal of oxygen. If you do not have an outside source of combustion air, your fireplace will draw air from inside the house, including the air you paid to heat.
- **Keep the fireplace damper closed unless a fire is going.** An open damper can let as much as 8% of your heat go out the chimney.

Keeping The Cold Out

- **During winter months, open drapes & shades** during the day to let the sun in. Close them at night to keep out the cold.



- **Seal leaks** around doors, windows, and other openings around pipes and ducts, with caulk or weather-stripping.
- **Check** to see if attic, walls, crawl space, and basement have recommended levels of insulation.
- **Install** storm, thermal or double-pane glass doors and windows.

You'll be receiving further detailed information in the coming months concerning the payment options available to you, as well as payment assistance information.

If you have additional questions, please contact our Customer Service:
Boise / Treasure Valley 377-6840 or 1-800-548-3679 (other areas)
7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Mon – Fri

Si le gustaría recibir esta información en Español, favor del llamar Intermountain Gas Company.

The time to plan for Winter Energy Use is NOW.



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