



**AS COOLER NIGHTS
APPROACH THIS AUTUMN,
ASSEMBLYMAN BRIAN MILLER
WANTS TO HELP YOU**

**SAVE
MONEY
ON YOUR HOME
HEATING BILLS**



**Assemblyman ★★★★★
Brian Miller**

New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

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“I know that preparing for upcoming home heating costs this winter might be tougher than usual because of the pressures of the coronavirus pandemic have placed on so many. I hope these tips and resources will be useful to you and your loved ones as you get your home ready for the cold weather this fall.”



SAVE ENERGY. CUT YOUR BILL:

- Install LED bulbs which last 25 times longer and use at least 75 percent less electricity than incandescent bulbs.
- Close your fireplace flue when not in use.
- Open your shades and drapes during the day to let the sun's warmth in and close them at night to keep cold air out.
- Close vents in rooms not in use.
- Insulate your attic, foundation space, hot water pipes, and heating ducts.
- Caulk cracks around windows and doors.
- Lower your thermostat – every degree saves you 3 percent on your heating bill. Programmable thermostats promote efficiency. Consider lowering your thermostat to 62 degrees when you're not home.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS:

GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Contact your county's Department of Social Services or Office of Aging to learn about state and federal assistance programs, including HEAP.

COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE PROGRAMS

Organizations like the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and United Way may provide financial aid, counseling services and assistance with utility emergencies.

UTILITY SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Payment assistance programs are available through each of the major natural gas and electric utilities. Eligible, low-income customers can receive a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. For more information, contact your utility company directly.

DEFERRED PAYMENT AGREEMENT

This plan assists customers who have fallen behind on bills and cannot pay in full. Your energy provider can work with you to pay outstanding bills over a period of time.

YOUR ELECTRIC OR GAS UTILITY:

BUDGET BILLING

Ask your utility about paying a balanced rate year-round that spreads increased heating costs during the winter months over the entire year.

- **National Grid:** 1-800-930-5003, www.nationalgridus.com
- **New York State Electric & Gas:** 1-800-572-1111, www.nyseg.com
- **Central Hudson Gas & Electric:** 845-452-2700
- **Otsego Electric Cooperative:** 607-293-6622
- **Delaware County Electric Cooperative:** 607-746-2341

NEW YORK STATE AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

- NYS Department of Public Service Helpline: 1-800-342-3377
- Hotline: Electric-Gas Shutoffs: 1-800-342-3355
- Consumer Information: 1-888-AskPSC1, www.askpsc.com
- NYS Division of Consumer Protection: 1-800-697-1220, www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection
- NYS Energy Research & Development Authority: 1-866-697-3732, www.nyserda.ny.gov
- NYS Office for the Aging: 1-800-342-9871, www.aging.ny.gov



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IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ON THESE OR ANY OTHER STATE ISSUES, CONTACT ASSEMBLYMAN BRIAN MILLER AT:
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