



TAKE THE  
CHILL OUT OF  
**YOUR**  
WINTER  
ENERGY  
BILLS




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**WITH WINTER UPON US, ASSEMBLYMAN ANGELO MORINELLO WANTS TO HELP KEEP YOUR HOME AND YOUR WALLET WARM THIS SEASON.**

Whether you own or rent, there are steps you can take to control your energy use and manage winter bills.

### **CONTROL YOUR HEATING COSTS:**

#### **GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PROGRAMS**

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

#### **COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE PROGRAMS**

Organizations like the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and United Way 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.

#### **BUDGET BILLING**

This allows customers to pay more balanced bills throughout the year to make more expensive heating months easier to handle.

### **WASTE BUSTING ENERGY TIPS:**

- 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 using it
- 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 – for every degree you lower it, you could save 3 percent on your heating bills (use a programmable thermostat to save about \$200 a year)

### **YOUR ELECTRIC OR GAS UTILITY:**

- National Grid: 1-800-642-4272, [www.nationalgridus.com](http://www.nationalgridus.com)
- New York State Electric & Gas: 1-800-572-1111, [www.nyseg.com](http://www.nyseg.com)
- National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation: 1-800-365-3234, [www.nationalfuelgas.com](http://www.nationalfuelgas.com)

### **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](http://www.askpsc.com)
- NYS Division of Consumer Protection: 1-800-697-1220, [www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection](http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection)
- NYS Energy Research & Development Authority: 1-866-697-3732, [www.nyserda.ny.gov](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov)
- NYS Office for the Aging: 1-800-342-9871, [www.aging.ny.gov](http://www.aging.ny.gov)



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS OR ANY OTHER STATE ISSUE, PLEASE CONTACT MY DISTRICT OFFICE AT:** 800 Main St., 2C, Niagara Falls, NY 14301 • 716-282-6062 • [morinello@nyassembly.gov](mailto:morinello@nyassembly.gov)