

# ENERGY SAVING TIPS



## TURN DOWN YOUR THERMOSTAT

Find a comfortable temperature and keep it fixed there. Remember to turn it down at night and when you're out.



## OPEN & CLOSE YOUR BLINDS

Make sure your blinds and curtains are open during the day, allowing sunlight into the house. Close blinds at night in order to trap heat.



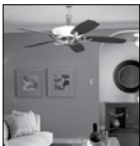
## WINTERIZE YOUR WINDOWS & DOORS

Use plastic film to cover your windows. Inspect door frames to make sure no drafts are coming into your home.



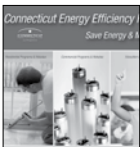
## CHECK YOUR FURNACE

Clean your air filters so that your heating system works more efficiently.



## USE YOUR CEILING FAN

Set your fan to blow air towards the ceiling. This will allow even heating in the room.



## CONTACT YOUR UTILITY COMPANY

Many offer tips by phone, email or website. Some will send a representative to your home. Call Eversource (800-286-2828) or Connecticut Natural Gas (860-524-8361) for more information.



## GET AN ENERGY AUDIT

Energize CT offers free home energy audits for qualified applicants. Visit [www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com) to learn more.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**ROBIN COMEY**

Proudly Representing Branford, 102nd District



# HELP WITH HEATING COSTS

Dear Neighbor,

This is the perfect time of year to prepare your home for the cold days ahead. There are programs available that can help us all reduce costs and energy.

If you should have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to call my office. I am eager to do what I can to help you make it through the winter months.

Sincerely,

For more help please contact  
my office or DSS at  
[www.ct.gov/staywarm](http://www.ct.gov/staywarm)

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# CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Connecticut's winter heating assistance program pays for most heating sources, including: natural gas, electricity, oil, propane, kerosene, coal, wood, and wood pellets.

The exact level of benefits is based on the number of members in the household, the household's income, and whether it is a "vulnerable" household.

## ARE YOU A HOMEOWNER OR RENTER WHO PAYS SEPARATELY FOR HEAT?

If you live in a **vulnerable household** (one or more members are age 60 or older, have a disability, are under age 6) then you may qualify for up to \$725 in winter heating assistance. If you live in a **non-vulnerable household** you may qualify for up to \$670 in winter heating assistance.

### HELPFUL RESOURCES IN BRANFORD

For more information on how to stay warm, well-fed and clothed this winter contact the Patricia C. Andriole Volunteer Center at 30 Harrison Avenue, Branford, CT or call at (203) 481-3663.

The Patricia C. Andriole Volunteer Center houses the Community Dining Room, Branford Food Pantry, Feed Branford Kids, and BH Care Clothing Bank.

# THE WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If you qualify for the Energy Assistance Program you may also be eligible for the Weatherization Assistance Program that will help conserve energy and lower your household heating bills. This program helps low-income persons minimize energy-related costs and fuel usage in their homes through retrofits and home improvement measures.

Currently, the eligibility is set at 60% of state median income. Priority is given to households with members that are particularly vulnerable, such as the elderly, those with disabilities, families with children and high energy users. For multi-family dwellings, at least two-thirds of the tenants must be income-eligible.

If you are not eligible for the program, there are other programs available including a utility ratepayer-funded low-cost energy audit. Contact your utility company to learn more.

For additional information on the Weatherization Assistance Program, contact the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection by sending an email to DEEP.Weatherization@ct.gov.

TO APPLY FOR THESE PROGRAMS, SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE BRANFORD SENIOR CENTER AT (203) 315-0687.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS CHECK OUT [WWW.CT.GOV/DSS](http://www.ct.gov/dss) OR CALL THE 2-1-1 INFOLINE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL EVERSOURCE AT 1-800-286-2828.  
CT NATURAL GAS CUSTOMERS CAN CALL 860-524-8361.



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## OPERATION FUEL

Operation Fuel is a network of fuel banks that helps families and small businesses by providing assistance to the residents of Connecticut who may have no other option to cover energy costs. While approval is income-based, their private dollars allow them to help anyone in an energy crisis. For more information, go to [www.OperationFuel.org](http://www.OperationFuel.org) or call 2-1-1 to apply for assistance.

Honorably discharged veterans who served during specified periods, and their families, may be eligible for emergency assistance that may include utility or energy bills. For more information, contact the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund at 844-454-8900.

### SHUT-OFFS

To avoid shut-offs during the cold season, most gas and electric utility companies offer a Winter Protection Program to low-income residents who are falling behind on their heating bills.

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES AT  
[WWW.HOUSEDEMS.CT.GOV/COMEY](http://WWW.HOUSEDEMS.CT.GOV/COMEY)