ENERGY SAVING TIPS

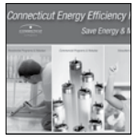
TURN DOWN YOUR THERMOSTAT
Find a comfortable temperature and keep it fixed there. Remember to turn it down at night and when you're out.

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.

GET AN ENERGY AUDIT
Energize CT offers free home energy audits for qualified applicants. Visit www.energizect.com/residents to learn more.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Lou Esposito
Representing West Haven & New Haven| 116th Assembly District

CONNECTICUT HOUSE DEMOCRATS

HELP WITH HEATING COSTS

Dear Neighbor,

Winters in Connecticut are cold, and some families have a hard time covering high heating bills. There is help out there! Several programs can help us all keep costs lower and save energy. Please read this mailer to find out more.

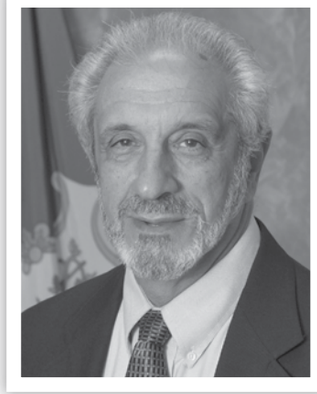
Please do not hesitate to call my office if you have any questions or need more information. My staff and I are eager to do what we can to help you make it through the winter months.

Sincerely,

FOR MORE HELP PLEASE CONTACT
MY OFFICE OR DSS AT
WWW.CT.GOV/STAYWARM

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Lou Esposito

Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591
Capitol: 800-842-8267
www.housedems.ct.gov/Esposito



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. Households with a lower income will be eligible for a higher amount of assistance.

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 $550 in winter heating assistance. If you live in a ***non-vulnerable household*** you may qualify for up to $505 in winter heating assistance.

Are your heating costs included in your monthly rent?

You may still be eligible for up to $80 - $100 in winter heating assistance depending on the household's income and number of members.

To apply for these programs, schedule an appointment by calling your local community action agency or contacting the **2-1-1** Infoline or the DSS Office of Community Services at **1-800-842-1132.**

For more info on these and other state-administered programs check out the Housing/Shelter tab at **www.ct.gov/dss**

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.

CONNECTICUT HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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, check out their website at www.Operationfuel.org

Operation Fuel, Inc.

Avoid Shut Offs

Most gas and electric utility companies participate in Arrearage Forgiveness Programs, for those falling behind on their heating bills, and the Winter Protection Program, which helps low-income residents avoid shutoffs.

For more information, contact your utility company.

State Representative

Lou Esposito

Lou.Esposito@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Esposito