



As the cold winter months approach us, it is my hope that we all find an affordable and efficient way to keep our homes warm. To help you, I recently toured the Northeast Utilities System Facility (CL&P's parent company). The visit was very informative and I would like to share, with you, information I received from their representatives regarding energy assistance and conservation programs that may help you stay warm while paying less money towards your utilities bill. For instance, NUSTART (1.800.286.5844), CEAP and CHAP (contact: CT Renewal Team at 860.560.5800) are just a few programs that may be able to help you heat your home. Call today and find out which program is best for you.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 860.240.8585.

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State Representative

Representing Hartford | 7th District

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CAPITOL NEWSLETTER WINTER 2009 *Programs available to you*

Did you know?

- » Lowering your home's thermostat to 68 degrees could save up to 10% on heating costs. For homes with infants and seniors, the thermostat should be set at a minimum of 70 degrees.
- » Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning results in "flu-like" symptoms including headache, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, heart palpitations and confusion. To reduce the risk of CO poisoning, make sure all air registers (i.e. chimneys or vent pipes) are not blocked by drapes, furniture or rugs. Never use your gas stove as a space heater. Installing a CO detector in your home would be beneficial.
- » You can save up to 10% on heating costs if you caulk and weather-strip around windows & doors and install gaskets behind outlet covers.
- » Wrapping your water heater in an insulating blanket can save \$2 a month.
- » Doing two dryer loads in a row is the best way to use the generated heat.
- » Microwave ovens draw less than half the power of conventional electric ovens.
- » Compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) use ¼ the energy of a regular bulb.

Matching Payment Programs

CL&P and Yankee Gas offer Matching Payment Programs to financially challenged electric and gas heating customers who have a past-due balance. To determine eligibility, customers must apply for energy assistance to be applied to their CL&P or Yankee Gas account and make a budget payment arrangement. **For more information, please call: 1.800.286.2828 or 860.947.2828 (CL&P customers) 1.800.438.2278 (Yankee Gas customers)**

Winter Protection Plan (WPP)

You may qualify for CL&P or Yankee Gas Winter Protection Plans (WPP) which protect you from service being shut off if your household income is at or below 60 percent of the state median income or you receive public income assistance. The WPP runs from November 1, 2009 through May 1, 2010. You will still receive your monthly bill, but it is so important that you pay what you can on your bill each month, to that you won't have a large balance when the protection period ends. **To apply, call: 1.800.286.2828 or 860.947.2828 (CL&P customers) 1.800.438.2278 (Yankee Gas customers)**

Apply for WRAP Now to Save Energy

WRAP is a free program funded by the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund and provided by CL&P, Yankee Gas and other utilities to help income eligible customers (renters or homeowners) lower their energy bills by making their homes more energy-efficient.

Qualified customers will receive an in-home visit from a specialist who will check and seal drafty windows and doors, check the heating system, appliances and insulation, provide energy-efficient bulbs, lamps, shower heads and more.

To find out if you qualify, call **1.800.388.9727**

If you need additional assistance or have questions, contact Douglas McCrory at:

Email: Douglas.McCrory@cga.ct.gov

Phone: 860.240.8585

Website: www.housedems.ct.gov/McCrory