

# ENERGY SAVING TIPS



## WINTERIZE YOUR WINDOWS & DOORS

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



## 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.



## CHECK YOUR FURNACE

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



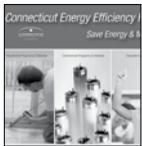
## USE YOUR CEILING FAN

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



## CHANGE YOUR LIGHTBULBS

Replace incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR® qualified compact fluorescent (CFL) or LED light bulbs. They last longer and use a fraction of the energy of regular light bulbs.



## CONTACT YOUR UTILITY COMPANY

Many offer tips by phone, email or website. Some will send a representative to your home.



## GET AN ENERGY AUDIT

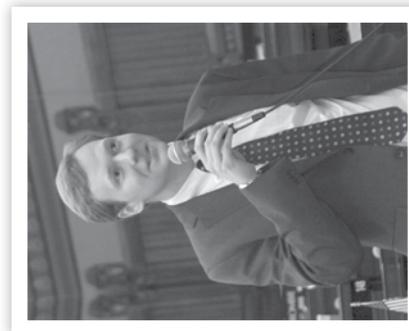
Energize CT offers free home energy assessments (audits) for qualified applicants. To learn more, visit [www.energizect.com/residents/solutions](http://www.energizect.com/residents/solutions)

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD, CT  
Permit No. 3937

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# Matt Ritter

Representing Hartford | 1st Assembly District



# 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 eager to do what we can to assist you during the winter months.

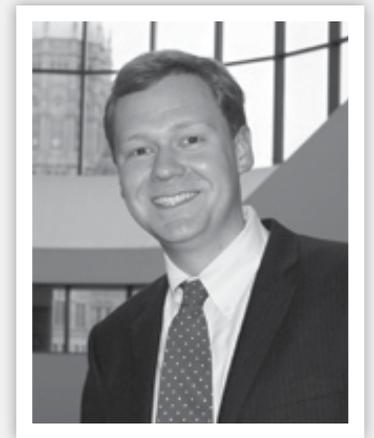
Sincerely,

FOR MORE HELP PLEASE CONTACT  
MY OFFICE OR DSS AT  
[WWW.CT.GOV/STAYWARM](http://WWW.CT.GOV/STAYWARM)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# Matt Ritter

Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Capitol: 860-240-8500  
Home: 860-519-5685  
[Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov)  
[www.housedems.ct.gov/RitterM](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/RitterM)



# CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Connecticut's winter heating assistance program for low-income households pays for most heating sources, including natural gas, electricity, oil, propane, 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, or 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 THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL TEAM (CRT) AT **(860) 560-5600** OR **2-1-1** INFOLINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER STATE-ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS CHECK OUT THE HOUSING/SHELTER TAB AT **WWW.CT.GOV/DSS**; CONTACT **2-1-1** INFOLINE OR THE DSS OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AT **1-800-842-1132**.



# 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.



# OPERATION FUEL

As a network of fuel banks that helps families and small businesses, Operation Fuel is committed to 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, CALL OPERATION FUEL  
860-243-2345 OR CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE AT  
[WWW.OPERATIONFUEL.ORG](http://WWW.OPERATIONFUEL.ORG)

## AVOID SHUT OFFS

Most gas and electric utility companies participate in programs for low-income residents who are falling behind on their heating bills, and a Winter Protection Program that may help avoid shutoffs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL CL&P AT **1-800-286-2828**  
OR **860-947-2828**.  
YANKEE GAS CUSTOMERS CAN CALL **1-800-438-2278**



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# Matt Ritter

Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov  
[www.housedems.ct.gov/RitterM](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/RitterM)