

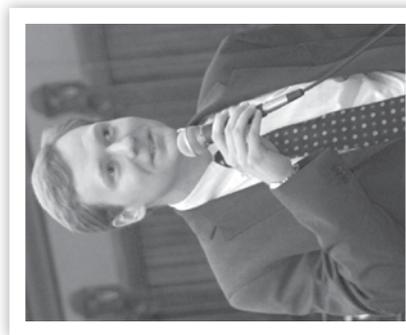
ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- 1. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFL) or LED energy-efficient light bulbs:**
They cost slightly more to buy, but they save you money in the long run. CFL bulbs use about one-fourth the electricity of an incandescent bulb, reduce CO₂ emissions, last roughly 9,000 hours longer than incandescent bulbs, and offset approximately 1.5 tons of emissions per household per year.
- 2. Turn off your computer when you're done and unplug appliances if not used often:**
Most appliances and computers use electricity even when "off." As much as 8 percent of your electric bill may be to power electronic devices that were turned off. Use a power strip to shut off audio-visual and other similar equipment. Remember to unplug your phone charger when not in use. These steps can help you save money on electricity bills, reduce electricity consumption, and reduce CO₂ emissions.
- 3. Weatherize your home:**
Seal cracks in your home by weather stripping and caulking; add insulation to reduce heating and cooling bills, energy consumption, and CO₂ emissions. Many electricity and heating suppliers offer low-cost or even free home energy audits to identify areas that need attention. To achieve the greatest savings, contact Energize CT at 877-WISE-USE (877-947-3873) about air-sealing your home. Get a free energy assessment here: www.energizect.com/residents/solutions/energy-assessments
- 4. Choose Energy Star labeled appliances when purchasing new ones:**
Save money on energy bills, reduce electricity consumption, and reduce CO₂ emissions by choosing energy efficient appliances with the Energy Star label.
- 5. Use alternate transportation:**
Consider walking, biking, using public transit, or an electric scooter before you drive your car. For those with a wild side, motorcycles get more mpg than most cars and trucks.



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MATT RITTER
Representing Hartford | 1st Assembly District



ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Dear Neighbor,

As we were reminded last winter, it can get cold here in Connecticut and some families have difficulty paying for heat. I want you to know that there are several programs that can help subsidize your heating costs and make sure your heat stays on. More information on these programs is contained in this mail piece, which I hope you find helpful.

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 assist you during the winter months.

Sincerely,

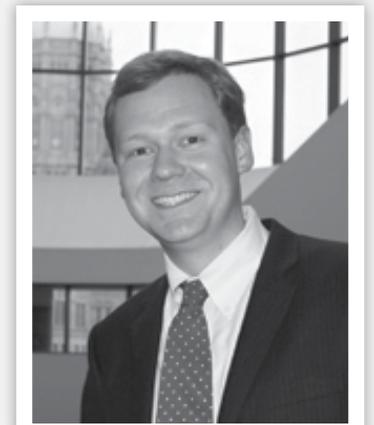
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt".

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

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**MATT
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CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Connecticut's winter heating assistance program benefits thousands of homeowners and renters throughout the state and 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 \$585 in winter heating assistance.

If you live in a **non-vulnerable household** you may qualify for up to \$535 in winter heating assistance.

ARE YOUR HEATING COSTS INCLUDED IN YOUR MONTHLY RENT?

You may still be eligible for up to \$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**

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. To learn more, contact DEEP.Weatherization@ct.gov.



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

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 may offer a Winter Protection Program that may help avoid shutoffs.

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



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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