

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.



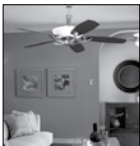
WINTERIZE YOUR WINDOWS & DOORS

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



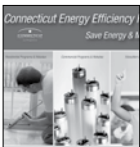
CHECK YOUR FURNACE

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 to learn more.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE | HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

MATT RITTER

Proudly Representing the 1st District | Hartford



HELP WITH HEATING COSTS

Dear Neighbor,

Winters in Connecticut are cold and some households have difficulty paying for heat. There is help out there. Several programs can help us all keep costs lower and save energy.

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

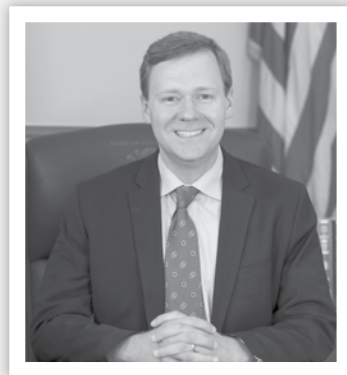
Sincerely,

Matt Ritter

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

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

MATT RITTER



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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. 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 \$590 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 to \$140 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) 560-5149**.

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.

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.



Matt meets with Hartford seniors during a visit to the State Capitol.



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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 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.

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