

ENERGY SAVING TIPS



GET AN ENERGY AUDIT

Energize CT offers free home energy audits for qualified applicants. To learn more, visit www.energizect.com/residents/solutions



TURN DOWN YOUR THERMOSTAT

You can easily save 5% or more a year by turning your thermostat down 10° to 15° for at least 8 hours a day.



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 throughout the room.



CONTACT YOUR UTILITY COMPANY

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

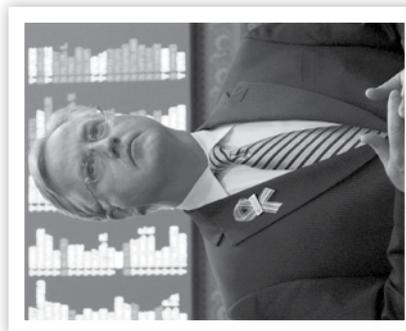
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STATE REPRESENTATIVE | SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Brendan Sharkey

Representing Hamden | www.housedems.ct.gov/Sharkey | 800-842-8267

Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06106-1591



HELP WITH HEATING COSTS

Dear Neighbor,

Sadly, some families in Connecticut have a hard time covering high heating bills, but there is help out there! Several programs can help us all keep costs lower and save energy. I've included some helpful information in this mailing.

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

1-800-842-1132 OR

WWW.CT.GOV/STAYWARM

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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** (one or more members are age 60 or older, have a disability and/or are under age 6). 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** 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 [HTTP://1USA.GOV/1KIEWAY](http://1USA.GOV/1KIEWAY)



WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

If you qualify for the Energy Assistance Program, you may also be eligible for the Weatherization Assistance Program that will help you conserve energy and lower your household heating bills. This program helps families minimize energy-related costs and fuel usage in their homes through retrofits and home improvement measures.

Currently, the eligibility is set at 60% of the state median income (roughly \$41,000). Priority is given to households with members that are particularly vulnerable, such as the elderly, those with disabilities, and families with children. For multi-family dwellings, at least two-thirds of the tenants must be income-eligible.



OPERATION FUEL

A network of fuel banks that helps families and small businesses, Operation Fuel is committed to providing assistance to the families 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

AVOID SHUT OFFS

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT YOUR UTILITY COMPANY.

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