October 2009



News and Information From New Jersey Natural Gas

Bring Your GREEN TO WORK

Today's current economic conditions have elevated the importance of energy savings as businesses try to do more with less. Coupled with increasing state and federal energy and environmental regulations, corporate energy initiatives are becoming standard operating procedure.

If you're looking for new, creative ways to embrace conservation and reduce energy costs, consider building your own Green Team. These teams not only implement change, but also help break down resistance to new ideas and effectively promote cost-saving projects. The ideal Green Team is cross departmental with employees from all levels of the organization, which helps to improve support and ultimately, success.

ENERGY STAR is there to help. At energystar.gov/work you'll find the FREE resources you need to build your Green Team including posters, employee tip cards and a valuable checklist to guide you through the process. You can also read about businesses that are finding success in their energy management programs. We would like to hear about your Green Team. Send an e-mail to our Senior Marketing Engineer, Craig Swaylik, at cswaylik@njng.com and share your energy-efficiency success stories with us.

One person cannot do it all! So why not make it a team effort – a Green Team that can reduce waste, promote conservation and help improve your bottom line through energy savings.

Natural Gas – The Smart Choice for Back-Up Power

Now more than ever, businesses require reliable power. Back-up generation is an essential part of a solid energy plan to ensure continued power to critical equipment during an outage, such as computers, data centers and heating and cooling systems.

Natural gas generators offer a number of advantages that make them an excellent choice for emergency power. Since the natural gas is piped directly to the generator, there's no need to install, maintain or refill messy on-site storage tanks. The fuel source is abundant and since natural gas pipelines are located underground, they are typically not impacted by weather or mechanical disruptions. And, clean natural gas emits far less carbon dioxide and pollutants than diesel and gasoline, making it a better choice for the environment.

Overall, natural gas generators can ensure the low-maintenance, cleanburning, reliable back-up power you need 24 hours a day – seven days a week. For additional information call our Senior Marketing Engineer, Craig Swaylik, at 732-919-8133.











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Great News -

NJNG's Prices are Coming Down – Refunds on the Way!

Just in time for the fall heating season, NJNG's residential and small commercial sales customers are seeing a decrease in their Basic Gas Supply Service (BGSS) rate. The BGSS portion of your bill covers the natural gas you use. NJNG makes no profit on the sale of natural gas itself and passes the cost directly to the customer as mandated by law.

A typical residential heating customer will see a decrease of about 19 percent while residential non-heat and small commercial sales customers will have a decrease of greater than 11 percent. For a typical residential heating customer using 100 therms a month, that's a monthly savings of \$32.55. For a customer using 1,000 therms annually, that's a savings of over \$320!

In addition to the price decrease, NJNG is issuing \$35 million of one-time BGSS refunds to eligible residential and small commercial sales customers that will be reflected in the October 2009 bills. For the average residential customer, this refund is approximately \$80, representing a 5.6 percent decrease to their annual bill for the upcoming year.

Make Time for Safety

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 1 to set your clocks back to standard time. It's also the perfect time to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors. When homes are sealed up against the cold weather, there's a greater chance of a dangerous buildup of CO. So, please, take a few minutes to make time for safety.

Attention Residential Customers – Mark Your Calendar for Energy Assistance

On November 1, 2009, the federal Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) will begin accepting applications for the 2009-2010 heating season. Eligibility for HEAP is based on income guidelines. Your HEAP application will also be used to determine your eligibility for the state's Universal Service Fund which provides financial assistance throughout the year.

To learn how you can apply, call 1-800-510-3102 or visit www.energyassistance.nj.gov. You may also qualify for other programs which provide additional assistance.

Are you or someone you know unable to pay your natural gas bills? To discuss special payment arrangements or other billing issues, contact NJNG at 1-800-221-0051.



WINTER'S @OMING - GET READY!

Now is the time to make sure your heating system is operating at peak performance to help you save energy dollars.

- Have a preseason inspection and routine maintenance performed by a professional heating contractor.
- Replace your furnace filter before the heating season begins to increase efficiency and change it monthly if you have pets, smokers or people with breathing difficulties living in your home.
- Make sure your furnace and hot water heater are properly ventilated and clear of obstructions.
- Seal up seams and cracks around walls, windows, doors and fixtures to reduce drafts.
- Make sure vents and registers are dust-free and not blocked by furniture, draperies or rugs, allowing heat to circulate.
- Reverse your ceiling fan motor so warm air is driven back down into the room, resulting in more even heating.

Don't miss the enclosed insert featuring two of our very best GREEN options, E-Bill, our paperless bill service and E-Tips, our monthly energy-saving e-mail service. Sign up for these FREE resources today!

How To Reach Us

Call us: Toll-free:

1-800-221-0051 People with hearing and speech impairments

1-800-223-0024

Out of state: **1-732-938-7977** Report a gas leak:

1-800-GAS-LEAK (1-800-427-5325) Call before you dig: 811 or <u>1-800-272-1000</u>

E-mail us:

customerservice@njng.com

Visit our Web site: www.njliving.com

Write to us: New Jersey Natural Gas 1415 Wyckoff Road,

P.O. Box 1464, Wall, NJ 07719

Visit the Save Energy & Money section of our Web site, njng.com, for other tools and resources to help you Conserve to Preserve[®].