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St. Lawrence Gas

An  ENBRIDGE Company

Winter of 2010

For 24 hour emergency service call: 1-800-673-3301
For non-emergencies call: 769-3516, 322-5792, 1-800-454-2201
P.O. Box 270 • Massena, NY 13662 • www.stlawrencegas.com

SNOW & ICE ON METER



This winter please check, on a regular basis, your outside gas meter and regulator to make sure that no ice builds up on either. The gas regulator is a disc shaped device usually installed near the outside wall of your house in the piping connected to

the gas meter. Ice build-up around the meter and regulator can cause an uneven supply of natural gas to your appliances. Do not use sharp objects to remove the ice. If you notice a significant build up and are unable to safely remove the ice please call St. Lawrence Gas.

ENERGY SAVINGS

During winter it's a good idea to review some energy conservation tips to help stretch your energy dollars.

- Tighten up your home. Seal leaks around windows and doors with caulk, spray foam, and weather stripping.
- Inspect your insulation, particularly in the attic. It's the easiest place to add insulation and can make a big impact on energy bills.
- If you have a fireplace, make sure the damper is closed when not in use.
- Dress in layers and set your thermostat back as low as is comfortable to you.
- Ceiling fans should be reversed in winter to move warm air down from the ceiling toward the floor. Set the fan speed on its lowest setting to avoid the feeling of a draft.

- Regularly clean or replace air filters in your forced-air heating system for fuel economy and better air quality.
- Leaky ducts can reduce your system's overall efficiency. Sealing ducts is especially important if they run through the attic or crawlspaces.
- Wait until you have a full load before running your washer, dryer or dishwasher.
- Open window shades during the day to let the natural warmth of the sun into your home. At night, close them again to help insulate your windows against heat loss.
- If you're replacing any household appliances, choose Energy Star rated equipment for peak efficiency.

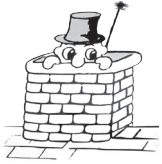


FRANKLIN COUNTY EXPANSION

In October 2009, Governor Paterson announced \$2.5 million funding by the Upstate Regional Blueprint Fund toward construction of a 48 mile natural gas pipeline into Franklin County. St. Lawrence Gas has been working diligently behind the scenes to make the project a reality. Richard Campbell, President & General Manager of St. Lawrence Gas, said: "The funding commitment is an acknowledgement by Governor Paterson, Empire State Development and Franklin County that

the expansion of natural gas distribution is vitally important for Northern New York State. Bringing natural gas to this new market area will provide an economic and environmentally preferred fuel choice to residential, commercial and industrial customers." St. Lawrence Gas is hoping to obtain the necessary permits to begin construction in 2011 and to attach the first customers by the winter of 2011-2012.

CHIMNEY INSPECTION



Customers who still utilize masonry chimneys are reminded that regular inspections should be performed to check for blockage and condition of the tile liner. It is particularly important for customers who have recently converted from another fuel. Incomplete combustion of a previous fuel could have caused soot and other residues to build up inside the chimney and flue. The water vapor produced by the burning of natural gas

could cause this material to loosen and fall, possibly blocking the flue. A blocked flue could then cause the appliances to "dump" exhaust gases into the home and eventually displace the oxygen needed for complete combustion, resulting in the production of carbon monoxide, a dangerous gas. We recommend that you inspect your chimney at least twice a year. Those with newer appliances that vent through the wall are also reminded to check the vents for disconnected joints, or any sign of deterioration.

TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE

Now might be the right time to install a high efficiency natural gas heating system. You may be able to claim a tax credit up to \$1500 on your Federal Income Tax when you replace your heating system with a qualified



furnace or boiler. A tax credit is worth more than a deduction because it reduces the amount of tax owed, not just the amount of taxable income. Visit our website at <http://www.stlawrencegas.com> and select the Energy Efficiency tab.

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

St. Lawrence Gas is offering rebates for installation of high efficiency heating equipment. The program for 2010 covers qualifying equipment installed on or after January 1, 2010. Funds are limited and

are available on a first come first served basis. More information is available on our website or by calling St. Lawrence Gas at 769-3516 and speaking to Phil St. Amand at extension 617.

ABUNDANT NATURAL GAS

There's good news about natural gas reserves in North America. New technology is making natural gas found in shale economically recoverable, and America has approximately 100 years of supply available

at the current rate of consumption, with more discoveries on the way. America's natural gas delivery system, consisting of thousands of miles of pipeline has an excellent record for safety and reliability.

NEED HELP PAYING YOUR GAS BILL?

If your bills are more than you can handle, HEAP may be able to help you heat your home. HEAP stands for Home Energy Assistance Program. You may be eligible for a regular HEAP benefit if your income is at or below income guidelines for your household size, if you receive Food Stamps, if you receive Temporary Assistance, or if you receive Supplemental Security Income. You may apply for HEAP at your local department of social services, certain community agencies, or under special circumstances you may be able to apply by phone or

have an authorized representative apply on your behalf. If you have had your service disconnected for non-payment or are in danger of termination an emergency HEAP grant may be available to help you get or keep your heat on. For more information please contact your local HEAP office in St. Lawrence County @ 315-379-2303, Lewis County @ 315-376-5400, or by calling 1-800-342-3009. Additional information is also available at www.otda.state.ny.us by clicking on "Resources for Working Families".

HEAP Eligibility – Maximum Gross Monthly Income			
Family Size	Income	Family Size	Income
1	\$2,030	5	\$4,528
2	\$2,654	6	\$5,152
3	\$3,279	7	\$5,269
4	\$3,903	8	\$5,386

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