



**TAKE THE
CHILL OUT OF
YOUR
WINTER
ENERGY
BILLS**



MONTESANO
STATE ASSEMBLY

New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

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**WITH WINTER UPON US, ASSEMBLYMAN
MIKE MONTESANO WANTS TO HELP
KEEP YOUR HOME AND YOUR WALLET
WARM THIS SEASON.**

Whether you own or rent, there are steps you can take to control your energy use and manage winter bills.

CONTROL YOUR HEATING COSTS:

GOVERNMENT SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Contact your county's Department of Social Services or Office of Aging to learn about state and federal assistance programs.

COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE PROGRAMS

Organizations like the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and United Way provide financial aid, counseling services and assistance with utility emergencies.

UTILITY SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Payment assistance programs are available through each of the major natural gas and electric utilities. Eligible, low-income customers can receive a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. For more information, contact your utility company directly.

DEFERRED PAYMENT AGREEMENT

This plan assists customers who have fallen behind on bills and cannot pay in full. Your energy provider can work with you to pay outstanding bills over a period of time.

BUDGET BILLING

This allows customers to pay more balanced bills throughout the year to make more expensive heating months easier to handle.

WASTE BUSTING ENERGY TIPS:

- Install LED bulbs which last 25 times longer and use at least 75 percent less electricity than incandescent bulbs
- Close your fireplace flue when not using it
- Open your shades and drapes during the day to let the sun's warmth in and close them at night to keep cold air out

- Close vents in rooms not in use
- Insulate your attic, foundation space, hot water pipes and heating ducts
- Caulk cracks around windows and doors
- Lower your thermostat – for every degree you lower it, you could save 3 percent on your heating bills (use a programmable thermostat to save about \$200 a year)

YOUR ELECTRIC OR GAS UTILITY:

- National Grid: 1-800-930-5003, www.nationalgridus.com
- PSEG-Long Island: 1-800-490-0025, www.psegliny.com
- New York State Electric & Gas: 1-800-572-1111, www.nyseg.com

**NEW YORK STATE AGENCY
CONTACT INFORMATION:**

- NYS Department of Public Service Helpline: 1-800-342-3377
- Hotline: Electric-Gas Shutoffs: 1-800-342-3355
- Consumer Information: 1-888-AskPSC1, www.askpsc.com
- NYS Division of Consumer Protection: 1-800-697-1220, www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection
- NYS Energy Research & Development Authority: 1-866-697-3732, www.nyserda.ny.gov
- NYS Office for the Aging: 1-800-342-9871, www.aging.ny.gov



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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS OR ANY
OTHER STATE ISSUE, PLEASE CONTACT
ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE MONTESANO AT:
montesanom@nyassembly.gov or 516-937-3571.