

# CONTROLLING ENERGY COSTS

With energy costs running high and the mercury dipping lower by the week, Valley Energy offers a few suggestions to help you control your energy costs this winter.

To help our customers control energy costs, we've compiled the following list of energy conservation tips:

- ✓ Clean or replace furnace air filters and have your heating system inspected and tuned by a qualified service professional.
- ✓ Check for drafts around doors and windows, and replace weather stripping where necessary. Use weather stripping for air leaks around moving parts like windows and doors. Use caulk for stationary structures like window frames and walls. Caulk that is cracked or shrunken should be replaced.
- ✓ Make sure all windows and storm windows are closed and latched.
- ✓ Clean and vacuum baseboard heaters, heating ducts, radiators and vents. Also be sure that furniture, drapes or other items are not blocking radiators and vents.
- ✓ Don't run ventilation fans in bathrooms or kitchens any longer than necessary, as they suck heated air from the home.

PLEASE FLIP FOR MORE  
CONSERVATION TIPS



**VALLEY ENERGY**

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- ✓ Turn down the heat. For every one degree you lower your thermostat, you will save from 1 to 3 percent on heating costs. When away from the home or asleep, set your thermostat at 55 degrees.
- ✓ Insulate and weather strip your attic door and make sure it closes tightly, stopping warm air from escaping.
- ✓ Install inexpensive foam draft blockers or gaskets around all of the electric outlets and wall switch boxes located on outside walls.
- ✓ Keep the damper on your fireplace closed when not in use. And when using your fireplace, remember to turn down the thermostat.
- ✓ Lower the temperature on your hot water tank. For normal household needs, 120 degrees is sufficient.
- ✓ Dry full loads in your clothes dryer, keep the lint screen clean and don't over dry your clothes.
- ✓ Close off unused rooms in your home.

## **WE CARE Program**

Valley Energy offers a variety of programs designed to assist customers having difficulty paying their gas bills. We can set up payment arrangement plans, enroll customers in our budget billing program and help customers determine if they are eligible for federal energy assistance funds. For more information about these programs or other energy conservation tips, call us at (570) 888-9664 or 1-800-998-4427.

Additional energy assistance information can be obtained by calling the Bradford County Assistance Office at 1-800-542-3938 or (570) 265-9186 or the Tioga County (N.Y.) Dept. of Social Services at 607-687-8300.