

Hot Ideas!




ENERGY TIPS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

Reach for the Star ... the ENERGY STAR®!

Congratulations! By using Oilheat, you're already saving money! And as an Oilheat customer, you can continue to cut costs and keep New York beautiful when you upgrade or replace your old equipment with products that have received the ENERGY STAR® rating. Created by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), only the most energy efficient products have earned the ENERGY STAR.

Did you know that if just 1-in-10 households bought ENERGY STAR equipment, **over 17 billion pounds of pollution would be removed from the air?** Plus, ENERGY STAR products can help you save hundreds of dollars per year. For example, **by upgrading to an ENERGY STAR rated oil-fired furnace or boiler, you can reduce heating bills by almost 30%!** And in case you're wondering where to find one, the Energy Star web site (www.energystar.gov) lists 55 technologically-advanced, environmentally-friendly oil-fired boilers and furnaces that have earned the coveted ENERGY STAR.

As much as half of the energy you use goes to cool and heat your home, so why burn money — literally — when you can reach for the ENERGY STAR! To find ENERGY STAR qualified Oilheat products, contact us today. For additional information, check the ENERGY STAR web site or call its toll-free hotline at 1-888-STAR-YES (782-7937). 




This newsletter brought to you in association with



Upgrade for the New Year

“Should auld heating equipment be forgot,” then for the sake of “auld lang syne” it's time to consider investing in a new, high-tech and high-efficiency system.


Where an older boiler probably peaks at 65% efficiency, **Federal efficiency standards require a minimum efficiency of 80% for new boilers.** Your current system may be wasting money and energy if you experience:

- ▶ Uneven heating throughout your home
- ▶ Time lag between turning the heat on and actually feeling it
- ▶ More frequent breakdowns and service calls
- ▶ Rising energy bills even when you turn the temperature down
- ▶ Increased emissions 



Cold Weather Clothing Tips

New York winters can be brutal. And whether you're a doorman outside all day ... or waiting at the elevated platform for your train to arrive, here are tips from the Mayo Clinic to help you retain your body's natural warmth:

- ▶ **Wear layered, insulated clothing** that doesn't retain moisture (polypropylene or polyfleece, for example). Choose a windproof outer layer.
- ▶ **Keep clothes dry.** Wet clothes lose their insulating effect, and when combined with wind, can chill you.
- ▶ **Wear a warm hat or hood.** Up to half of your body heat is lost through your head.
- ▶ **Avoid overexertion and sweating,** which increases heat loss through evaporation.
- ▶ **Avoid caffeine and alcohol,** which dilate blood vessels close to the skin, increasing heat loss.
- ▶ **Wear warm footwear** that also provides enough traction to prevent falls. 



What Is All That Stuff in the Basement, Anyway?

You've heard it humming for years. You've passed it by on the way to the washing machine. Now we'll tell you everything you ever wanted to know about your heating system, but were afraid to ask.


First, your **thermostat** must sense that room temperature has fallen below your thermostat setting. It then sends a signal to your **burner's controls**, spurring the system into action.

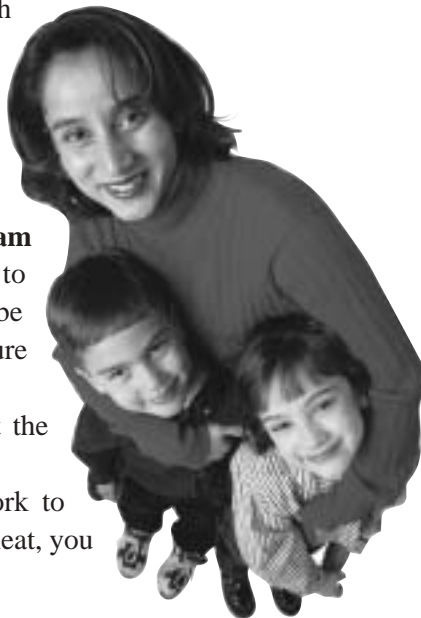
Next, oil travels to the burner via a **fuel pump**. In order to burn, the oil must become a fine mist and mixed with air (think in terms of a perfume atomizer). Then, the burner ignites the fuel in the **combustion chamber**.

Most of New York City area homes are heated using **hydronic systems**, which are composed of two main types: hot water systems and steam systems. Both heat water in a boiler which can be made of cast iron or steel and which houses the combustion chamber.

In a **hot water system**, the heated water is pumped through radiators or baseboards by a **circulator**. In a **steam system**, water turns to steam and rises to the **radiators**. Should the water level be insufficient, a **low water cut-off** feature will shut off the boiler.

Finally, combustion emissions exit the system via the **flue pipe**.


So there you have it! All that work to keep you cozy and warm! But with Oilheat, you know it's worth it! 



Oilheat: The Price is Right

"Come on down!" On TV, those are the words that summon contestants to play "The Price Is Right" game show. And in the Oilheat "game," prices have certainly *"come on down!"* ... to everyone's applause!

In fact, the U.S. Department of Energy is forecasting that the nation's **Oilheat customers will spend about 8% less** on average this heating season than last, in part because the odds favor a normal winter, not a cold one like last year's.

And, as we pay off all those hefty holiday bills, it's good to know that we're heating our homes with economical Oilheat. After all, today's Oilheat isn't just 99.9 percent clean and 100% warm — it's also 100% easy on the wallet! 

The winter forecast is
a good one for
Oilheat budgets.