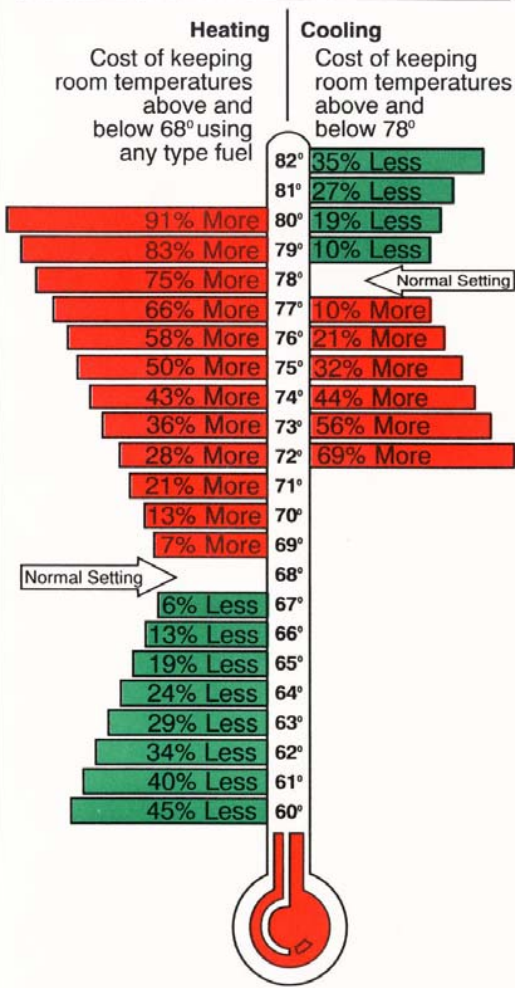


**WATCH THAT TEMPERATURE SETTING!**

Because natural gas is an excellent heating fuel, it is important to be sure that the temperature is set appropriately to avoid being scalded by water that is too hot. This is especially true in situations where small children have access to hot water faucets. Check the setting on your water heater and be sure it is set in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications (usually between 110 and 120 F). If it is not, refer to the water heater owner's manual or contact the dealer for instructions on how to adjust the temperature setting.

**Relationship of Temperature to Operating Cost**



**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

To avoid dangerous situations and costly repairs, it is vital that utility companies be notified before digging, as required by state law. Even if you are digging with a shovel in your own yard. This is a simple process. Just call the Palmetto Utility Protection Service at least three (3) days in advance at the number listed below and all participating utilities will be notified. The P.U.P.S. representative can provide you with the information you need to ensure that the work you plan to do will be done safely.

**Palmetto Utility Protection Service**  
**1-888-721-7877**



**GUARD AGAINST CARBON MONOXIDE!**

As with any fuel or energy source, precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of those who use it. Therefore it is important to make sure that all appliances are properly installed and maintained to avoid the potential problem of increased levels of carbon monoxide due to inadequate air supply to an appliance. Indications of this problem might be a yellow flame (instead of blue), wavering flame, or soot. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include:

- Headache, Dizziness, Fatigue, Nausea, Heart flutters

Should you experience these symptoms you should:

- Open the windows and get fresh air
- Turn off the appliance that is operating improperly
- Contact **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AT 803-534-2812**

**Department of Public Utilities**

City of Orangeburg  
 Post Office Box 1057  
 1016 Russell Street  
 Orangeburg, South Carolina 29116-1057  
 803.268.4000 \* Fax 803.531.3803

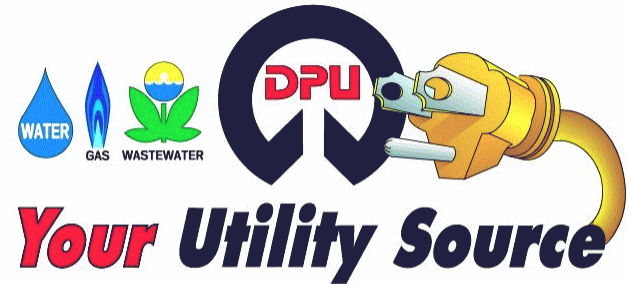
Web Address: [www.orangeburgsc.net/utilities](http://www.orangeburgsc.net/utilities)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**NATURAL GAS DIVISION**

FRED H. BOATWRIGHT  
 MANAGER

O. THOMAS MILLER, JR.  
 DIRECTOR, GAS DIVISION



**Your Utility Source**

*“Over 100 Years”*

The DPU's Natural Gas Division is committed to providing you with quality natural gas service at competitive rates in a safe, environmentally clean and efficient manner.

We have produced this guide to update you on safety and energy conservation measures, to provide you with the best and safest utility service possible. Please take a few moments to read this brochure and discover what your Gas Utility is doing for you.

## Energy Saving Tips

### *Be Energy-Smart Year Around*

One of the nicest things you can do for the environment -- and your budget -- is to use energy wisely. These tips will help you be energy smart year around and get the most out of every energy dollar.

### *Keep Thermostat Adjustments to a Minimum*

First you're hot. Then you're not. Before you adjust the thermostat again, remember: frequent adjustments to your thermostat waste energy and money. For each degree you set your thermostat above 68 degrees, you'll increase your heating costs by 3 percent. At night, turn the thermostat down at least five degrees.

### *Check Furnace Filters Regularly*

Check the filters in your furnace at least once a month. If they're dirty, you'll want to clean or replace them. Dirty filters make your system work harder to produce the comfort you've guided your thermostat to deliver. Clean filters also keep the air in your home cleaner and help limit the need for equipment maintenance.

### *Make Seasonal Adjustments to Your Living Habits*

Unlike bears, our bodies don't provide a natural means for hibernation in the winter. But that doesn't mean we can't look for ways to adjust our living habits to remain comfortable while conserving energy. For instance:

- Wear warmer clothing inside the house. Add a layer. Keep your head and neck warm.
- Watch TV or read in the warmest room in your house. Move chairs away from windows or outside walls. Close off the rooms you're not using.
- On sunny days, open window coverings and let the sun's heat help keep you warm. At night and on dark wintry days use window coverings to help insulate window areas.

### *Don't be Fooled by Your Fireplace*

It's fun to sit in front of a toasty fireplace. But did you know that when the fireplace is burning it also draws off as much as 20% of the heat in your house? In reality, you're heating the outdoors as well as the indoors every time it's in use. When you're not using the fireplace, make sure the damper is closed.

### *Eliminate "Energy Bandits"*

Most of the energy we use in our homes is for heating and cooling. The amount each person uses depends on the size of the house and, most importantly, on the construction features and maintenance that prevents the air you've paid to heat and cool from escaping.

There are several ways heat and air are "taken" from your house. The greatest heat loss normally occurs through the ceiling, but heat also escapes through walls, windows, doors, and floors. Here's how:

- You can reduce your monthly energy costs by putting your home in the best condition possible to contain escaping energy.

- Improve your insulation. This can save you more energy and money on home heating than anything. You can get complete insulation information from hardware stores, lumber stores, or insulation dealers.
- Consider installing storm windows and doors. You also can make temporary storm windows by tacking, stapling, or taping clear plastic to the inside or outside of windows and screen doors.
- Make sure doors and windows are properly weather stripped. In a pinch, you can cut strips from an old inner tube for weather stripping around doors. Simply cut the necessary width and tack it on. The rubber is a good protector and usually lasts longer than felt weather stripping.
- Caulk around windows and door frames. Cracked, brittle, and loose caulking must be replaced. Latex caulking costs a little more, but there's a reason--it usually lasts much longer.
- Replace loose or cracked putty around window panes.
- Cover window air conditioners.
- Seal your attic fan opening with heavy plastic or vinyl. However, make sure you leave the attic vents open--they allow moisture to escape. If moisture accumulates in your attic, it will greatly decrease your insulation's effectiveness.

## INSPECT THE UNINSPECTED!

DPU's responsibility to maintain natural gas lines ends at our meter, and although we do not maintain any natural gas lines beyond the meter, we are still committed to the safety of all our customers. For this reason we want to make sure that customers are aware of the need to inspect and maintain their buried fuel lines. We are directed by federal law to notify all customers of the following:

- Customer-owned buried natural gas piping should be periodically inspected for leaks, and if the piping is metallic, it should also be inspected for corrosion. This inspection should be performed by a qualified plumber.
- Any unsafe conditions which are found should be repaired.
- When digging near buried gas piping, the piping should be located in advance and the digging should be done by hand.

## WE ARE THERE FOR YOU!



No matter what time you call us day or night, seven days a week, someone is here to take that call. Dispatchers and repair crews are available to respond to leaks and other emergencies at all times.

**803-268-**

## KNOW WHAT TO LOOK (OR SMELL) FOR!

To insure your safety, natural gas is injected with a distinct odor which immediately alerts you to the presence of gas. The odor, often compared to the smell of rotten eggs, is present in such concentrations that, in the unlikely event of a leak, gas can usually be detected well before it is considered hazardous. In any case, if you ever smell natural gas and suspect a leak, you should take the following steps:

- DO NOT:**
- \*Operate a flashlight
  - \*Use a telephone
  - \*Turn electrical switches or other electrical equipment on or off
  - \*strike a match or lighter
- DO:**
- \*Open windows to increase the ventilation

If odor persists, immediately leave the house and call DPU from a neighbor's phone.

## \$200.00 REBATE! Convert To Natural Gas And Make Some Cash!



Trade in your old electric or propane water heater for a new gas water heater and you'll get a lot more hot water for a much lower operating cost.

And if you trade in your old electric water heater or convert your old propane water heater, DPU will pay you up to \$200 of the cost.