

Prepare for High Heating Costs This Winter

Intermountain Gas customers should expect to pay more than last year to heat their homes and businesses with natural gas during the upcoming winter heating season.

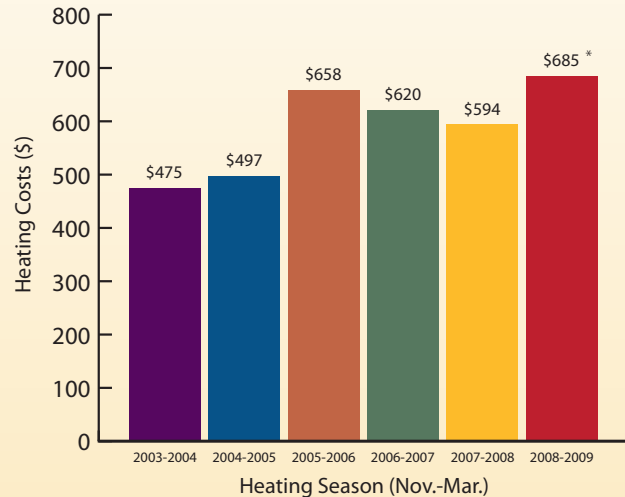
Assuming a normal winter heating season, the cost to heat your home and water is expected to increase by approximately \$91 over the last heating season based on average customer usage.

Customers are encouraged to budget for the expected increase in natural gas costs, as well as take other steps to better manage their home energy costs.

Although the price of natural gas is higher this year, it still is one of the most affordable energy sources to heat your home and water.

The estimated cost to heat your home this winter (November-March) with natural gas is \$1.19 per therm, or a total of \$685.

For more information on conservation and other energy-related programs, please see details inside.



2003-2008 actual average winter space and water heating cost, and estimated 2008-2009 winter space and water heating cost based on proposed price increase and normal winter weather. Your cost may vary.

*Estimate based on proposed prices.



Customer Service

208-377-6840
(Boise / Treasure Valley)

1-800-548-3679
(Other Areas)

7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday

www.intgas.com



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Energy-Saving Tips

Maintain Your Heating System

70%-80% of a typical home's natural gas use is for heating.

- Change or clean furnace filters once a month during heating season.
- Have your furnace or boiler tuned by a qualified technician once a year to help improve your system's operating efficiency. Plus, your furnace is one-third less likely to break down.
- If you have an old heating system, consider replacing it with a high efficiency system. By upgrading you could save 15% to 24% on heating costs.

Turn Down Your Thermostat

The easiest and most economical way to cut energy costs is to adjust your thermostat. You could cut heating bills by as much as 10% per year by turning your thermostat back by 10% to 15% for eight or more hours per day.

- Set thermostats between 65° F and 70° F during the winter, and to 58° F when away from the house for four or more hours. For homes with elderly people or children, warmer temperatures are recommended.
- For greater temperature control, use a programmable or setback thermostat.

Turn Down Water Heater Setting

The water heater accounts for approximately 15% of the average household's energy use. Using it wisely can save you money.

- To lower energy cost without sacrificing comfort, set water heater temperature to 120° F.
- Replace old tank water heaters with models that have an energy-efficiency factor of .64 or greater.

Make Windows Work for You

- On sunny days, open draperies and blinds to let in the sun's warmth.
- Close draperies and blinds at night to insulate against cold air.
- Be sure storm windows are installed during heating season.

Stop Drafts and Air Leaks

By adding insulation and sealing air leaks, you could cut as much as 40% from your energy bill. Guard against heat loss by sealing leaks around doors, windows, and other openings such as pipes and ducts.

- Weatherize your home with caulking and weatherstripping to seal leaks.
- Be sure attic and basement have recommended levels of insulation.
- After you have caulked and sealed bypasses, adding insulation can help you reduce energy use and save on future fuel bills.

Keep Warm in Winter

- Warm air rises, so use registers to direct warm airflow across the floor.
- Keep hot and cold air registers free of dust and do not block with carpet or furniture.

Showerhead / Faucets

- Install water flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets.
- Repair leaky faucets. A leak that fills a coffee cup in 10 minutes wastes 3,280 gallons of water a year.

Washer / Dryer

- Run washing machines and clothes dryers with full loads only.
- Consider washing with cold water.
- Replace old, outdated appliances with high efficiency models.

Level Pay and Assistance

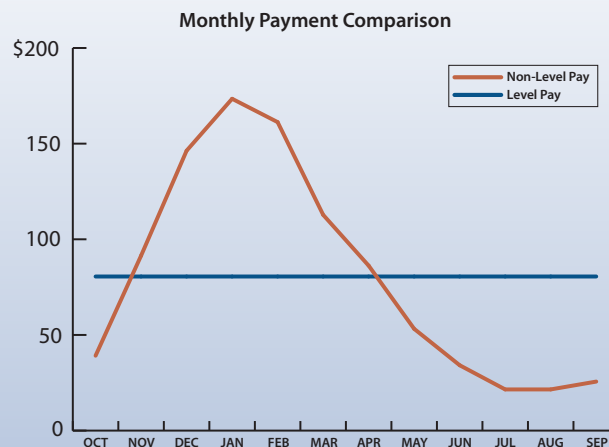
With Level Pay, your energy bill is more predictable and budget friendly.

While you will continue to see changes in your bill because of changes in price - Level Pay will help *level out* your monthly gas bill. Level Pay helps reduce fluctuation brought on by changes in the weather and gas commodity prices. Be one of the more than 49,000 Intermountain Gas customers enjoying our Level Pay program by enrolling today. To sign up, call our Customer Service number on the back of this brochure.

Some people have difficulty paying their heating bills and may be eligible for heating assistance. If you find yourself in this situation, please contact our Customer Service and they will direct you to the heating assistance programs in your area or visit our website at www.intgas.com for more information.

Level Out Your Monthly Gas Bills

The following graph is an illustration of how a customer's monthly payment looks on Level Pay and what it would look like without Level Pay.



Programmable Thermostats

One of the most simple and low-cost ways to reduce your heating bill is to install a programmable thermostat. It allows you to adjust the times you turn on the heat according to a preset schedule. As a result, the equipment doesn't operate as much when you are asleep or when the house or part of the house is not occupied...saving you money.

Programmable thermostats automatically adjust your home's temperature settings, allowing you to save energy while you're away or sleeping.

They:

- are more convenient and accurate than manual thermostats and improve your home's comfort.
- contain no mercury.
- save energy and save money on utility bills – when used properly, about \$100/year.
- use less energy and are better for the environment.



Programmable thermostats earn the ENERGY STAR rating by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the government. These units save energy by offering convenient, pre-programmed temperature settings – settings that try to anticipate when it's convenient for you to scale back on heating or cooling. If you are like many homeowners and work outside the home during the day and have a different schedule on the weekend, a programmable thermostat can offer many benefits, and the return on your investment is usually within one year. On the other hand, if you are home throughout the day, seven days a week, then a programmable thermostat will offer more limited benefits.

Source: www.energystar.gov