

Winter gas bills hit decade-low prices

A surge of abundant, domestic natural gas supply over the past few years has dramatically stabilized and lowered natural gas prices, which has helped natural gas once again be the most cost-effective energy source for home heating.

If you heated your home with natural gas this past winter, **you paid significantly less** than those who used propane or electricity.

The average Vectren customer paid a monthly bill of about \$85 to \$100 during the 2011-2012 heating season for a five-month total of \$435 to \$495 depending upon the efficiency of your furnace and size of your home.

Natural gas heating bills have not been this low since the heating season of 2001 through 2002. In fact, lower market prices for natural gas have helped customer bills drop 40% over the past four years.

Furthermore, forecasts show the gas market remaining relatively stable for years to come.

Average costs for home heating: 2011-2012 heating season

Heating Source	5-Month Bill Total
Natural gas furnace	\$495
Natural gas furnace (high-efficiency model)	\$435
Electric furnace	\$1,300
Electric heat pump	\$560 - \$610
Propane furnace	\$1,675

Customer Service

(800) 227-1376 • Monday–Friday • 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST

Conservation Connection

(866) 240-8476 • Monday–Friday • 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST

Curb water heating costs

DIY efficiency tips

Water heating accounts for up to 25% of the average household's total energy usage. Here are some tips to lower your water heating costs:

Lower the water heating temperature — for each 10°F reduction in water temperature, you can save between 3%–5% in energy costs.

Set your water temperature to “cold” on your clothes washer — 90% of the energy used in washing clothes goes toward heating the water.

Cut your shower time by 5 minutes — you can save energy and over 4,500 gallons of water per year.

Fix leaks — a leak of one drip per second can cost \$1 per month.

Time to replace your old water heater?

If your water heater is more than 10 years old it is likely running at less than 50% efficiency—wasting energy and money—but most people don't replace their water heater until it fails. Upgrading to a new, more efficient model will help lower your monthly expenses.

Check out these great rebates from Vectren's Conservation Connection when it's time for a change:

\$150
Natural Gas Tankless Water Heater
Must be at least
.82 Energy Factor (EF)

\$125
Natural Gas Storage Water Heater
Must be at least .67 EF and
hold 30 gallons or more

Before purchasing, visit www.vectren.com or call (866) 240-8476 for the rebate application and complete details on appliance energy efficiency and service requirements. The rebate form and invoice(s) must be postmarked within 60 days of appliance installation.

