

# Getting Ready for the Heating Season

Did you know that a home energy audit can detect problems that may, when corrected, save significant amounts of energy over time?

## TAKE STEPS NOW TO GET READY FOR WINTER

- Examine ways to cut down on energy usage. Contact your utility company for information about home energy audits and suggestions to make homes and businesses more energy efficient. Have the furnace checked and tuned-up, if needed. Replace filters regularly.
- Identify safe measures to keep homes and businesses energy efficient. Caulk and place weatherstripping on doors and windows that leak air. Add attic insulation if necessary. Ask your utility company if you are eligible for weatherization assistance.
- You may want to talk to your local utility company about a “budget” or “level” billing plan. Many Missouri gas and electric companies have programs to assist their customers in paying their energy bills. In most cases, companies will try to work with you to avoid disconnections.

Since 1977, the Public Service Commission has required heat-related utility companies under its jurisdiction to adhere to its Cold Weather Rule, which requires utilities to help customers maintain heat-related service during the winter under certain circumstances. Utilities and the PSC can also provide information on financial assistance programs available to consumers.



### For More Information

The Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) regulates investor-owned water, sewer, natural gas, electric and steam utilities. The PSC also has limited jurisdiction over telecommunications providers in Missouri. The PSC works to ensure Missouri citizens receive safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility services. If you have an inquiry, billing question or service-related issue that your utility provider cannot answer, please call the PSC at **1-800-392-4211** or visit our website at **psc.mo.gov**.



### Missouri Public Service Commission

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