

## GOVERNMENT HELPS

Connecticut has instituted a number of tax rebate and tax credits for improving energy efficiency. Please see <http://www.icpa.org/ConsumerInfo.htm>, under "Consumer Advisories," for the latest information about what you can take advantage of to become more energy efficient!

## BIOHEAT – THE RENEWABLE AMERICAN ALTERNATIVE FUEL

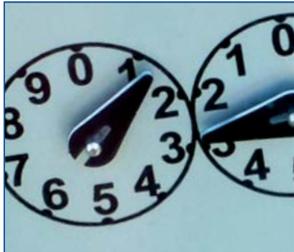


America's newest alternative fuel is here today – BioHeat.

Clean, renewable energy with domestic content that dramatically reduces reliance on foreign energy, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and reduces your home or business's carbon footprint. Learn more about America's newest alternative fuel at <http://oilheatamerica.com/index.mv?screen=bioheat> and you can find a local BioHeat supplier by going to our website at [http://icpa.org/find\\_bioheat.htm](http://icpa.org/find_bioheat.htm).

## STOP THE METER CRUNCH

If you are a Connecticut electric heat user you are paying the highest home heating cost in the lower 48 states. **On a BTU basis, you pay the equivalent of \$7.44 a gallon to heat with electricity.** Your full-service heating oil retailer and licensed, professional Energy Conservation Technician can show you a 60% reduction in heating costs and a pay-back of less than 4 years when you convert to a modern, clean, super efficient Oilheat system. Replacing electric heat in homes with oil equipment also lowers greenhouse gas emissions by more than 50% – or 16 tons of greenhouse gases per year for each house converted.



## REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Brookhaven National Laboratory's Oilheat research program has helped to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than 470 million tons over the past 15 years. Brookhaven's Oilheat research program is credited with efficiency improvements that have reduced fuel oil use in homes by more than 40%.

This is a remarkable record of accomplishment unmatched by other energy use sectors in the U.S. If all energy use sectors reduced fuel consumption by 40%, as accomplished to-date by residential Oilheat, recently proposed global warming reduction targets could be reached easily. Homeowners with older oil heating systems can also improve their equipment's efficiency, lower heating costs, and reduce greenhouse emissions by implementing a range of proven energy conservation measures.



ICPA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The ICPA Technical Education Center is part of the ICPA Education Foundation, a 501 [c] [3] non-profit vocational education institution headquartered in Connecticut at 10 Alcap Ridge, Cromwell, CT 06416

An Important Message About

# Controlling Energy Costs

From the ICPA Technical Education Center at the ICPA Education Foundation



Our trained, professional Energy Conservation Technicians work every day to help consumers not just keep their heating and air conditioning systems running, but also to keep them running at peak efficiency to help them control their energy costs. When was the last time you took advantage of our Energy Conservation Technicians' ability to reduce your energy consumption?

### THE RISE AND FALL OF ENERGY COSTS

All energy costs have been on the increase, and occasionally, one energy source may gain an advantage over another. However, over the past 5 years, the price of heating oil has averaged 37% less than the price of natural gas. Over the past 10 years, heating oil has been 44% less expensive on average than natural gas. Over the past 15 years, heating oil has been 36% less expensive.



In dollar terms – a natural gas user spent \$3,900 more than a comparable Oilheat user to heat a home over the past 10 years. Future energy costs are difficult to predict, although the U.S. Department of Energy estimates that oil and natural gas will generally behave the same in terms of their price increases and decreases over the next 20 years.



### THE SHOPPING CART OF FOREIGN ENERGY SUPPLIES

The U.S. imports from a number of energy sectors. For example, all of the new natural gas coming into the Northeast comes from Canada. All of the LNG (Liquified Natural Gas) proposed for Northeast projects such as Broadwater in Long Island Sound will come from Africa or the Caribbean. Suffice it to say, natural gas comes from foreign sources, just as some of our oil comes from foreign sources.

### SWITCHING FUELS MAKES VERY LITTLE SENSE

Your heating system is a 20-year investment. If you're an Oilheat customer, you've saved money over the last 20 years. Since future energy costs are impossible to predict with certainty, the wisest strategy is to focus on conserving energy and reducing consumption.

Conservation is clearly less expensive. And it has the fastest "pay-back" or return on investment of any option you have to control your energy costs. Investing \$6,000 (or more) to convert to another fuel makes no economic or energy sense at all (unless you are an electric heat consumer converting to Oilheat).

### WHAT CONSERVATION MEASURES COULD YOU TAKE?

There are quite a number of good investments consumers can make to reduce energy consumption and energy costs. Some of the best include:

- **Installing A Programmable Thermostat**

For as little as \$50, the programmable thermostat produces one of the biggest savings for the lowest cost. Consumers can see a return on investment of 124% or more.

- **Maintaining Efficiency With Your Local ECT**

Consumers who schedule a visit from their local Energy Conservation Technician to service and maintain their heating systems at maximum efficiency can save between 5% and 10% per year on energy costs. Even older systems can be kept at relatively good efficiencies for remarkably low cost using a professional Energy Conservation Technician.

- **Whole House Energy Conservation**

There are dozens of important tips for you at our website ([www.icpa.org/tips.htm](http://www.icpa.org/tips.htm)) ranging from things you can do for free to relatively low-cost, insulation steps all the way to upgrading your older system to a new, super-high efficiency system that easily surpasses systems from 10 or more years ago.

### REPLACING EQUIPMENT

Today's Oilheat technology is actually a combination of several 21st century innovations from a number of equipment manufacturers – things like sidewall venting, indirect water heating, and higher efficiency standards. Newer furnaces and boilers are smaller, quieter, and they work wonderfully with other new home heating technologies like programmable thermostats and radiant flooring.

Today's high technology energy solutions reach efficiencies of 90% or higher and dramatically reduce consumption and emissions and save energy dollars. It's a well-known fact: Replacing an older heating system with ultramodern Oilheat can be one of the most effective ways to reduce the amount of fuel you use.

Replacement Furnaces	Cost \$	Efficiency Gains When Upgrading from 60% AFUE
82-84% AFUE	\$2,300-\$2,600	28%
90% AFUE	\$3,700-\$4,700	33%
Replacement Boilers		
84% AFUE	\$3,600-\$4,500	29%
95% AFUE	\$4,800-\$6,200	37%

### AN ENERGYLOAN CAN MAKE IT EASY

Upgrading an older, inefficient system to a new, high-efficiency system is something that generally pays for itself in less than 5 years and means you save hard earned cash. What is **EnergyLoan**? It is an unsecured loan program with preferential interest rates and terms designed to make fast and affordable financing from \$1,000 to \$20,000 available to homeowners for most types of improvements that improve the energy efficiency of your home. Your local ICPA full-service heating oil retailer or HVAC contractor can assist you with financing your energy conservation upgrade through



AFC First/Energy Loans at <http://www.energyloan.net>.