

Your source for the latest news, tips and advice to help you save energy, money and the environment.



## Home heating oil: it is a great value

Oil prices are continuing to be volatile and we know that's challenging for you. We take our role as an energy savings partner very seriously, and want to share important information with you because even when energy costs seem high, heating oil is still a great value as your main heating source.

**The facts speak for themselves!**  
Rising energy costs are not just limited to oil, but there are many reasons why **9.5 million American homes and families use heating oil over gas to keep comfortable.**<sup>1</sup>

Resist the impulse to convert to other fuel sources and check out these facts:

### Converting to gas is costly

- A total gas heating conversion could run as high as \$9,000! Converting will NOT save you money.<sup>2</sup>
- It's financially unwise for consumers to convert from heating oil to gas heat according to the Consumer Energy Council of America (CECA).

### Heating oil is a good value

- Heating oil prices dropped 23% during the 1980s and 1990s. More recently, prices for other goods and services have risen much more than the price of heating oil.
- Even with rising energy prices, the cost of heating oil has traditionally been cheaper in 5 out of the past 7 years!

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## CustomerTalk

"We would like to commend your employee who came to our house during the big snow storm in February, when our oil furnace went out late in the evening! Not only was he courteous and very knowledgeable about the problem, he was able to fix it quickly — which we really appreciated with outside temps so low."

— PETRO CUSTOMER

Share your experiences with us by emailing them to [customertalk@petroheat.com](mailto:customertalk@petroheat.com) and they could be featured here, too.

## Quick tips to go green!

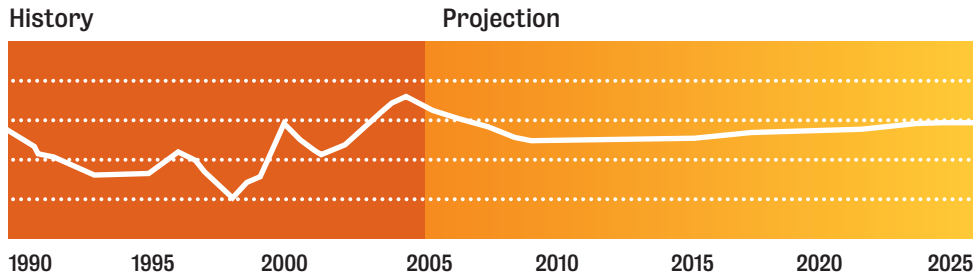
Use these quick and easy lifestyle changes to save energy and live greener this summer:

- Turn off lights and electronics when you leave a room.
- Unplug chargers when portable electronics are fully charged.
- Take five- to ten-minute showers instead of baths.
- Don't hold the refrigerator door open.
- Consolidate errands and cut some car usage. Walk, ride bikes, carpool, or get a scooter!

<sup>1</sup> Source: Oil Heat Powered By Clearburn Science. The Clear Choice! NORA (National Oil Heat Research Alliance).  
<sup>2</sup> Source: [www.houselogic.com/articles/should-you-convert-oil-gas-heating](http://www.houselogic.com/articles/should-you-convert-oil-gas-heating)

# Home heating oil: it is a great value

## Wholesale oil prices



Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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Heating oil, like other forms of energy, is a commodity traded on the open market, so you can expect ups and downs in its price. However, competition among thousands of oil heat companies plays a role in ensuring great value and service, which you can always count on us to deliver.

### Heating oil is clean and dependable

- Oil heat burns 95% cleaner now than in 1970 and the latest ultra-low sulfur products and biofuels, which we offer, continue to make it even cleaner and greener.
- Residential heating oil equipment is environmentally-friendly and barely creates emissions.
- New oil heat systems don't create soot, dirt or odors in the home when properly maintained.
- Oil creates 140,000 BTUs of heat per gallon while a gallon equivalent of Natural Gas produces 100,000 BTUs.<sup>1</sup>
- Approximately 40% more natural gas needs to burn to receive the same heating equivalent as oil.<sup>2</sup>

### Heating oil is more energy efficient

- Oil equipment is 16% more efficient on average than gas equipment.
- New systems boast energy-efficiency ratings from 83%-94%!<sup>3</sup>

- Oil heating systems today use 25% less fuel than they did 20 years ago.<sup>4</sup>
- The hot water recovery rate of an oil-fired water heater is twice as fast as a gas water heater and three times as fast as an electric water heater. And, oil heat provides more efficient residential warmth than gas.

### Heating oil is safe

- Inhalation of oil fumes is not fatal – unlike gas, which is known as “the silent killer” and is the leading cause of death from carbon monoxide poisoning in the U.S.<sup>5</sup>
- Oil is not explosive and only ignites within the combustion chamber of an oil-burner or furnace. Plus, oil will not burn in a liquid state.
- Oil system malfunctions produce clear warning signs before releasing carbon monoxide.

It's true – the best choice for warmth, reliability, energy efficiency, safety and value is oil heat. **Get more facts and download our oil vs. gas fact sheet at [petro.com](http://petro.com).**

1 Source: [www.cityfuel.net](http://www.cityfuel.net)  
 2 Source: [www.cityfuel.net](http://www.cityfuel.net)  
 3 Source: [www.cityfuel.net](http://www.cityfuel.net)  
 4 Source: National Oilheat Research Alliance, America Petroleum Institute  
 5 Source: Energy Answers Today Pocket Guide by Primedia [www.energyanswerstoday.com](http://www.energyanswerstoday.com).



## You ask. We answer.

**Q:** When should I schedule an AC system tune-up?

**A:** To avoid equipment problems during the summer, schedule your AC tune-up in the spring, before using your system on a daily basis. The same is true of your heating system. Schedule its tune-up or cleaning in the fall, before winter sets in. Don't forget, we also have multiple service plan options for your equipment to ensure that it runs smoothly all year.\* **Call today to schedule a tune-up appointment!**

**Have more questions for us? Visit the FAQ section of our website for answers to other common questions.**

**You can also call us at 800.OIL HEAT (800.645.4328) or visit [petro.com](http://petro.com).**

\*Some services not available in all areas. Terms and conditions apply. Visit [petro.com](http://petro.com) for details.

# Survey says: conserve and save!

Is your AC system ready for summer? Do you have a plan to save on heating costs next winter? Conserving energy with your current heating or cooling system is smart – and less expensive – than converting to another fuel source.<sup>1</sup> Take this short survey to learn what steps to take to ensure your home heating and AC systems run efficiently and help you save!

## Home energy efficiency survey

Have you:

1. Changed or cleaned your air filter in the last 3 months?

YES  NO

2. Removed dirt, leaves, snow or other debris from around the outdoor components of your system?

YES  NO

3. Installed a programmable thermostat and programmed it properly?

YES  NO

4. Inspected your duct system for obvious signs of leaks and disconnects?

YES  NO

5. Had your cooling and heating equipment inspected by a professional in the last year?

YES  NO

## IF YOU ANSWERED NO

to any or all of these questions, please take the following actions to ensure you're maximizing energy efficiency and saving:

1. Change or clean your filter at least every 3 months. This will improve airflow and air quality in your home.

2. Remove leaves and other debris from around outdoor components to improve airflow through your system. It will ensure easy oil delivery in the winter months.

3. Install a programmable thermostat. This alone can help you save up to \$180 per year when used properly.

4. Seal and insulate heating and cooling ducts (in the attic, basement or crawl spaces). You'll improve efficiency by up to 20%.

5. Make sure to have us inspect your systems prior to each heating and cooling season. Maintaining your equipment not only keeps it operating efficiently but saves energy and money in the long run.

## IF YOU ANSWERED YES

to any or all of these questions, you're already getting valuable returns that are greater than if you switched to alternative fuel options!

Learn more about our energy-efficient equipment, service plans and tune-ups. **Call or visit [petro.com](http://petro.com).**

**Time to upgrade your heating or cooling equipment?**

**SAVE UP TO 20%!**

Let us install the latest, energy-efficient and ENERGY STAR rated home heating or AC systems and you can save up to 20% annually on energy bills!<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.cec.org/publications/Smart%20Choices%20Heating%20Analysis.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Source: [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)



Heating & Air Conditioning Services