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## What if someone told you that natural gas could make doing laundry more fun?

Well, they'd probably be lying. (Can anything really make laundry more fun?) But natural gas can make doing laundry more efficient.

No matter the type of dryer, clothes are dried the same way: by speeding up the evaporation of moisture. But some dryers are more efficient than others.

Today's natural gas dryers save energy with electronic ignition systems rather than continuously burning pilot lights. They also offer many options to ensure optimum drying.

Multiple drying cycles accommodate different fabrics and dryness levels. Different sizes of dryers meet varied household needs, including heavy capacity dryers and compact, stackable versions that fit in a closet.

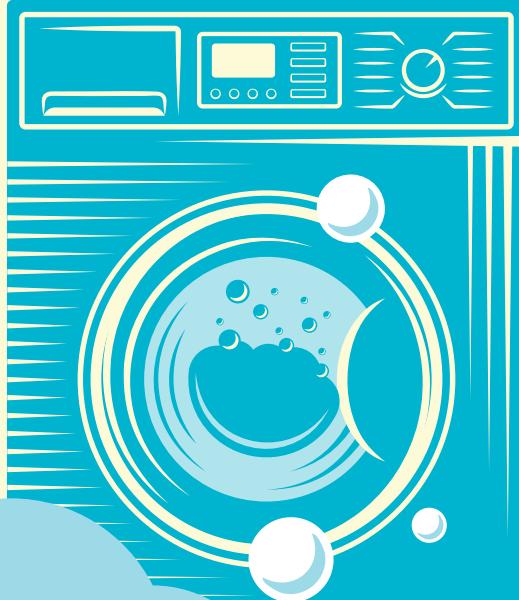
Moisture sensors, temperature sensors, and automatic termination cycles help avoid over-drying, which wastes energy and can damage clothes.

Natural gas water heaters get hot water to your washing machine quickly. Choosing a front-loading washing machine can ensure even more efficiency.

Front-loading washing machines have no agitator, which means they have room for more clothing. They also require less water, using less energy to heat the water. Plus, front-loading models spin more quickly, extracting more water from the clothes than top-loading models, which means less energy is needed for drying.

### WANT A SAFER, MORE EFFICIENT LAUNDRY ROOM? TRY THESE TIPS:

- Be sure your dryer is vented outside your home; interior venting can increase levels of humidity, lint and dust in your home.
- Buy ENERGY STAR rated washers and dryers for maximum efficiency.
- Clean the lint filters after each load. Buildup restricts the flow of wet air and can lengthen drying time. Lint buildup is also a fire hazard.
- Don't over- or under-load your dryer; dry full loads.
- Dry several loads consecutively; since your dryer is already warm, it will take less energy to warm up.
- Avoid opening the dryer door during use; it allows hot air to escape.



# Laundry the Natural Gas Way

gas up the stove

## Peanut Butter & Banana Sandwiches

2 bananas

6 slices of white bread

½ cup butter

1 cup peanut butter

Peel and mash bananas. Mix peanut butter with bananas thoroughly. Toast bread lightly and spread mix on bread. Melt butter in skillet and brown sandwiches on each side slowly until golden brown.

**Submitted by G.M. Turner of Stone Mountain.**  
Featured recipes are not independently tested, so we must depend on the accuracy of the cooks sending them. Always use safe food handling, preparation and cooking procedures from the recognized experts.



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WAS ELVIS'  
FAVORITE  
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### SAFETY TIP: Carbon Monoxide Detector

If your home uses natural gas, it should have a working carbon monoxide (CO) detector. Test the device every six months to ensure it is functioning correctly and replace the batteries when needed. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to swap out the device for a new model after several years.



## Programmable Thermostats – A Convenience that Saves

Heating and cooling is the largest portion of your energy bill. If you want to cut costs and save energy, start there. You can save three to five percent for every degree you adjust the thermostat.

Keeping an empty house comfortable is impractical and expensive. For maximum efficiency, a programmable thermostat automatically raises and lowers the temperature according to your settings when you are away.

Always follow the manufacturer guidelines and remember, when the season changes, so should your thermostat settings.

Some options to look for:

- Optional weekend settings
- Remote access (Wi-Fi)
- Touch screen
- Energy saving setting
- Vacation setting
- Change filter indicator



We love detailed feedback. Want to share anything?  
Send your comments to [gasette@waltonemc.com](mailto:gasette@waltonemc.com).



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