

PREPARE NOW TO SAVE LATER

Seasonal cold weather is on the horizon. Taking the time to button up your home now will help you consume less natural gas when temperatures drop — a move that can help you avoid a higher-than-expected gas bill.

“Though natural gas is one of the most efficient methods of heating your home, making even small improvements can impact your energy bill,” advises Karen Medlock, a Walton Gas senior customer service representative.

Take steps now to manage your energy use with these ways to save:

1 LOOK for leaky ducts

Inspect ductwork in attics, basements and crawl spaces to find and patch air leaks at joints between duct sections.



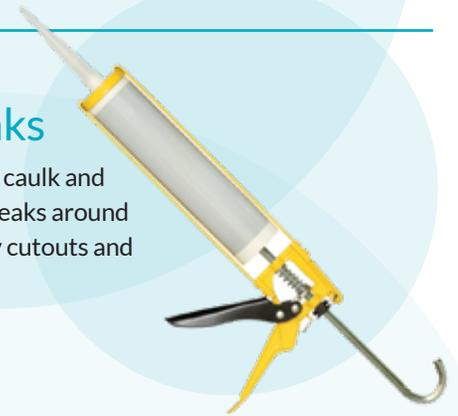
2 INSTALL a programmable thermostat

The easiest way to keep your home's temperature at energy-efficient levels is by replacing your manual thermostat with a programmable one. It will automatically turn heat up and down, according to your personal occupancy and sleeping schedules.



4 SEEK the leaks

Use weatherstripping, caulk and spray foam to seal air leaks around windows, doors, utility cutouts and electrical outlets.



5 INSULATE the water heater

If your unit is more than 10 years old, wrap it in an insulating blanket to reduce water heating costs. You can save even more by setting the water heater temperature to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.



6 CONVERT your fireplace

If you're using a wood-burning or older natural gas fireplace, as much as 80 percent of the heat it generates could be going straight up the chimney. Replace the outdated unit with a newer, energy-efficient gas-fired model.



3 SCHEDULE a furnace inspection

Regular maintenance of your heating system helps it operate at peak performance. Also, don't forget to regularly clean or replace the system air filter.

MORE: Find tips for saving energy this winter at waltongas.com/walton-wise.

gas up the stove

Candied Sweet Potatoes



- INGREDIENTS**
- 3/4 cup light brown sugar
 - 1/2 cup light corn syrup
 - 1/4 cup butter or margarine
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - 6 peeled and cooked sweet potatoes, halved lengthwise

INSTRUCTIONS

In large saucepan or Dutch oven, combine light brown sugar, light corn syrup, butter and salt. Bring to a boil over low heat, stirring until butter melts and sugar is dissolved. Reduce heat. Add sweet potatoes and baste well with syrup. Cook covered over low heat. After 15 minutes uncover and flip potatoes. Cook 15 more minutes, or until the potatoes are well glazed, basting occasionally.

Submitted by Sarah Williams of Lilburn. 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.

SEND US YOUR RECIPES! The best entry each month will appear in the *Gazette* and receive a **FREE** cookbook with over 650 recipes.

Send recipe, name, address to:

Walton Gas; Attn: Recipe
P.O. Box 260
Monroe, GA 30655
or gazette@waltonemc.com

Recipes can also be submitted at wالتongas.com/recipe-submissions.



HEAT

HEAT Recipient Highlight: Mary E.

Like many Georgians, Mary has always worked hard to support herself. Now, at 77, Mary is still doing everything she can to be self-sufficient. She even grows her own vegetables to stay active and save money on groceries. But despite her hard work, living on her own at her age with a fixed income can be challenging.

Even though she lives close to most places she goes, rising gas prices have made it difficult for Mary to get to the store and doctor appointments. After a medical procedure with a high co-pay pushed her finances to their breaking point, Mary realized that there was no way she would be able to afford to pay her natural gas bill.

With her family unable to help, Mary contacted local benefits offices provided by her health insurance. After being referred to HEAT, she applied and received the help she needed to see her through this tough time.

"May God bless HEAT's donors. This help has been an incredible relief, and I appreciate it more than I can express." Mary said when asked about HEAT. She wants HEAT's donors to know how much of a difference their help makes to people in need, like herself. "It feels like there isn't enough help for seniors and people on fixed incomes, so I'm thankful I found HEAT. And I'm thankful to their donors for their generosity."



Make a donation at heatga.org/donate or contact Walton Gas to donate through your natural gas bill.



Toll Free 866-936-2427 or 770-267-2505

Front Counter Hours
Weekdays, 8 AM to 5 PM

Call Center Hours
Weekdays, 7 AM to 7 PM

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Call Atlanta Gas Light to report gas leaks or emergencies anytime.

Inside Metro Atlanta
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Agriculture tax exemption

The Georgia Agriculture Tax Exemption (GATE) card is issued to farmers and producers who are exempt from state sales tax on the inputs used in the production of their commodity.

To find out what has changed or apply for a GATE card, visit forms.agr.georgia.gov/GATE/

To continue receiving this sales tax exemption from Walton Gas, producers must submit renewed cards to us no later than Dec. 31.



Copies of your renewed GATE card can be mailed, faxed or emailed to the following:

MAIL: Walton Gas, Attn: Kerie Garrett,
P.O. Box 260, Monroe, GA 30655

FAX: 770.267.6479

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