

# Choosing Natural Gas for Your Home

- Natural gas costs less than heating oil, propane, and electricity to heat a home.
- Natural gas burns cleaner than any fossil fuel.
- Natural gas is versatile—it can be used to fuel almost any indoor or outdoor application.



## Natural Gas Offers Many Advantages and Options

Choosing natural gas for your home offers many benefits and advantages that will help you save money, improve the environment, and increase your comfort. Whether you currently are using heating oil, propane, or electricity, switching to gas is the natural choice for home heating, water heating, cooking, clothes drying, fireplaces, and outdoor living applications.

## Lower Your Energy Costs

Natural gas has historically cost 10 to 50% less than electricity, heating oil, or propane. Today, the savings are even greater. In 2010, average natural gas heating costs are projected to be 59% less than heating oil, 56% less than propane, and 18% less than electricity.\*

In addition, natural gas heating systems cost less to maintain and have higher efficiencies than heating oil systems. Gas furnaces are up to 98% efficient. Heating oil systems can reach maximum efficiency levels of only 87%.

## The Right Choice for the Environment

Natural gas is the cleanest-burning fossil fuel available. Homeowners can reduce carbon emissions by over 40% and virtually eliminate sulfur dioxide emissions if they switch from heating oil to natural gas.

Natural gas is non-toxic and will not contaminate groundwater or soil. Heating oil is stored in underground tanks that can leak and contaminate water and soil—damaging the environment and leaving you with the clean-up costs.

\*Source: Department of Energy/Energy Information Administration

## Advantages of natural gas:

- Lower energy costs—natural gas is the most economical option for homeowners.
- Increased comfort—natural gas provides warmer air and heats your home faster than electricity.
- Better for the environment—natural gas is the cleanest-burning fossil fuel.
- With natural gas, you never run out of fuel or have to schedule a delivery.
- Unlike propane and heating oil, there is no pre-payment for fuel stored in a tank. You pay after you use it.
- Natural gas is a reliable, dependable fuel. Over 97% of natural gas supplies come from North America.
- Many natural gas appliances will operate during a power outage.

## Making the switch is easy

If there is no current natural gas connection to the home, call your local natural gas provider to determine if service is available. They will guide you through the process of getting a meter installed, selecting a contractor and equipment, and activating service to your home.



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