

ENERGY INSIGHTS

JULY 2021

A newsletter for residential customers of Holyoke Gas & Electric



For a Spanish version of this piece, please visit www.hged.com/newsletter.
Para obtener una versión en español de este artículo, visite www.hged.com/newsletter.

REDUCE COOLING & HEATING COSTS

Taking steps to air seal and insulate your home can significantly reduce overall energy consumption. A tighter, more insulated home will not only save you money on operating costs and reduce your carbon emissions throughout the year -- it may also allow you to buy a smaller, less expensive heating and/or cooling system. **Get started today by scheduling a free home energy audit**, which will help you determine the cost and benefits of weatherizing your home.

There are a few ways to increase your home's efficiency and reduce its consumption.

Air sealing: Ensuring there are as few gaps as possible for indoor air to escape and outdoor air to get in reduces the heating and cooling load in a home. Air leakage can represent up to 40% of space-conditioning costs in a leaky building. Weatherization professionals will focus on sealing leaks hidden in the attic, garage, or between floors. Air sealing often involves re-sealing windows, replacing broken or jammed vents, and replacing the rubber seals around door frames. Experienced professionals will know the common culprits of air leakage to target, but a professional assessment of hidden leaks using a blower door pressure test of the house is the best way to find where leaks are located.

Insulation: Having proper insulation in your home, especially in the attic, is one of the most cost effective ways to reduce your heating and cooling costs. Heat transfer through the building envelope (walls, roof, floors, etc) is the leading cause of heat loss in the winter. Working with a professional contractor to improve roof, wall, and floor insulation can considerably lower heat transfer, improving your home's efficiency. Many insulation contractors are trained to air seal before insulating, when it's much easier to do.

Ductwork Upgrades: If your home utilizes a centralized heating or cooling unit with ducts outside of the conditioned space of the home (e.g., in an attic, basement, garage, or crawlspace), sealing and insulating the ducts can significantly improve the overall efficiency of your system by ensuring that more of the heated or cooled air gets delivered to where it is needed.

HG&E Weatherization Incentives

Blower Door Test & Air Sealing	50%, up to \$500**
Insulation	50%, up to \$2,000*
Duct Sealing	50%, up to \$500**

*HG&E's free home energy audit required

**HG&E's free home energy audit recommended

For more information on rebates and incentives, please email efficiency@hged.com or visit www.hged.com/save.

RATE COMPARISONS

LOWEST ELECTRIC RATE



June 2021: Residential customer consuming 500 kWh/month. Amounts shown include all discounts and use the fixed default generation supply price.

LOWEST NATURAL GAS RATE



June 2021: Residential customer consuming 33 CCF/month. Amounts shown include all discounts.

HG&E Educates!

HG&E is committed to providing safety education to our community. Throughout the year, representatives from HG&E spend time visiting Holyoke's seniors and school children to discuss the importance of gas, electric, and canal safety. We hope you will enjoy some great photos from our latest visits!



EMPOWERING YOUR WORLD

HG&E Main Office
99 Suffolk Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9300
www.hged.com

Customer Service Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Contact Customer Service:
(413) 536-9300
Customer_Accounts@hged.com

Marketing/Communications:
Kate Sullivan Craven
ksullivan@hged.com

Payment Options

Online Payment
www.hged.com/payonline

Phone Payment
(413) 536-9300 (Option 5)

Drive Thru/Walk In
99 Suffolk Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9300

Mail
P.O. Box 4165
Woburn, MA 01888-4165

Holyoke Drop Boxes
HG&E, 99 Suffolk Street
C-Mart, 1500 Northampton Street
DB Mart, 494 Westfield Road
Stop & Shop, 28 Lincoln Street
Stop & Shop, 2265 Northampton Street
Union Mart, 297 Apremont Highway

Holiday Closings

Labor Day
Monday, September 6

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