

## Why Are Natural Gas Prices Going Up?

There are a lot of questions around rising natural gas prices.

National Fuel (the Utility) purchases gas at the lowest available cost and passes that cost directly to consumers with no markup.

**But many other verifiable factors are at play, including – but not limited to:**

- Natural gas pipelines are at full capacity and permitting of new infrastructure has been impeded.
- Increased usage of natural gas to generate electricity across the U.S.
- Return of economic activity following pandemic shutdowns.
- Increased U.S. demand for natural gas (up 3% in 2021–2022) due to colder temperatures and a slight increase in industrial demand.
- Higher production costs due to inflation and disruptions from COVID-19.
- Geopolitical events – like the war in Ukraine are increasing demand for U.S. liquified natural gas.

Much like prices of other goods and services, market forces have raised the cost of natural gas. While it remains the most affordable heating option, the increased price affects all of us.

**National Fuel is committed to helping customers through this challenging time.**



**National Fuel®**

# Helpful Tips to Lower Energy Usage

We know the cost of upcoming heating bills will be higher than last year. That's the bad news—but there is good news: Manageable steps can be taken to relieve the burden for each of us.

Along with relief programs for eligible customers through National Fuel and New York State, there are plenty of cost- and energy-saving measures that you can take in the coming months.

- **Lower the thermostat** – Reduce your heat to a level that saves energy, but still provides adequate warmth to everyone at home.
- **Maintain heating equipment** – Use a qualified heating contractor to be sure your furnace is working safely and efficiently.
- **Change your filter** – A clean furnace filter leads to greater efficiency.
- **Keep dampers closed** – Keeping this fireplace feature closed (when not in use) will keep cold air out.
- **Apply insulation kits to storm windows** – These treatments are affordable, effective and keep cold air out—while keeping heat in your home.
- **Seal windows and doors** – Make sure proper caulking and other sealants are applied to these cold air entry points.
- **Check the drip** – Make sure hot water faucets are closed tight and not needlessly dripping.

For more about these tips, available relief programs and more, visit [FuelingTomorrowToday.com](http://FuelingTomorrowToday.com).



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