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Heating Your Home Safely

The best way to safely heat your home is with your home's central heating system or built-in wall heater.

- Use your home's built-in heating system to heat your home.
- Open your curtains and shades on sunny days to let in the sun's heat. Close them at night and on cloudy days.
- Cover your fireplace and close the damper when not in use.
- Use weather stripping and caulk around windows and doors to keep the heat in and the cold out.
- Have a heating professional check your heating system once a year.
- Change your filters regularly.

Unsafe Heating Can Be Deadly

It's never safe to use an open fire or to burn charcoal inside your home.

- NEVER use a barbeque grill inside your home or any enclosed area.
- NEVER heat a room with a stove, oven, kerosene heater, dryer, or any other type of unventilated heater.
- NEVER burn anything in your fireplace that is not recommended by the manufacturer. This includes painted or treated woods.
- NEVER use gasoline or starter fluid to start a fire in your fireplace.
- NEVER use a generator indoors.



Power Outages

We want you to stay safe in the event of a power outage, too. If there's a power outage in your home, please call our 24-hour outage phone line at 1-888-456-SMUD (7683).

If you see a power line on the ground outside, always assume it is dangerous. Be sure to stay away from it and call SMUD immediately.

Heating Your Home Safely

As the temperature drops and you feel a chill in the air, it's the time of year to keep some important tips in mind for safely heating your home.

We also want to give you some reminders about what to do in case of a power outage, and tell you about a special program that gives qualified customers a monthly discount on their bill.

Low-Income Assistance

If you're having trouble paying your energy bills, you may qualify for a special discount called the Energy Assistance Program Rate (EAPR). Eligibility is based on your household income and the number of people living in your home.

To apply, just print an application at smud.org/financialassistance, or call 1-888-742-SMUD (7683) to request an application.



Keep your home warm, cozy, and safe

Safe home heating tips

