



# Natural Gas Matters

IDEAS AND INSIGHTS FROM YOUR NATURAL GAS SERVICE PROVIDER



## Save Some “Green” by Going Green

When you conserve energy, you’re helping to make a positive impact on our environment. But the environment isn’t the only thing that’s impacted – you’ll see the benefits in your wallet too. That’s because saving energy and saving money go hand in hand. Here are a few ways you can save energy and money in your home:

- > **Install a programmable thermostat.** You can save energy and money on your monthly utility bills by using a programmable thermostat to adjust your home’s temperature while you’re away from the house.
- > **Use your window shades.** During the winter, open curtains or shades to let the sun warm your house and close them during the night to keep the warm air in. During the summer, be sure to close any shades on the sunny side of your home, to keep the warm rays out.
- > **Adopt smart kitchen habits.** When using your cooktop, match the pot size to the burner size and keep the lid on the pot to shorten cooking time. Also, be sure to run your dishwasher only when full to reduce water usage, and let the dishes air dry instead of using the drying cycle.
- > **Switch to LED lighting.** Swapping out five lightbulbs to LEDs could save you more than \$100 per year. These highly efficient bulbs provide the same amount of light while consuming 90 percent less power than incandescent bulbs.
- > **Unplug your chargers.** Remember to unplug your chargers from the wall when your phone or tablet are fully charged to reduce unnecessary electricity usage. But don’t let the chargers take all the responsibility! You can also unplug other items – like your television or DVD player – when not in use. According to energy.gov, unplugging unused items can help conserve energy.
- > **Install low-flow devices on showers and faucets.** Putting low-flow devices on your home’s faucets will help you use less water, providing extra savings on your monthly bill.
- > **Clean or change filters regularly.** A dirty furnace or air conditioner filter can slow down air flow and make the system work harder to keep you warm or cool.



For more energy-saving tips, try our online energy calculators. Just visit [www.oklahomanaturalgas.com](http://www.oklahomanaturalgas.com), click the menu button in the top right corner and select “Energy Calculators” under “Customer Resources.”



## Can We Find You in an Emergency?

In an emergency, first responders and Oklahoma Natural Gas technicians depend on clearly marked addresses to find the right home as quickly as possible. Finding a residence can be challenging if house numbers are unreadable, hidden, unlit or missing. You can help emergency responders and service technicians locate your home by following these steps:



- > Replace aging or faded numbers.
- > Clear all obstructions (hanging plants, bushes, flags, etc.) from blocking your house numbers.
- > Post large numbers to allow visibility from the street.
- > Place your numbers near the street or on the curb, with a reflective coating and contrasting background.
- > Allow numbers to be seen from all directions (if your home is on a corner, have numbers posted on all sides).

## Save Energy and Money with a Natural Gas Clothes Dryer



In the market for a new dryer? Think natural gas and you could save money and energy. Our Energy-Efficiency Program offers rebates of up to \$550 for the purchase and installation of an efficient natural gas clothes dryer!

Why choose a gas clothes dryer? They have faster cycle times than electric dryers, and clothes come out “fluffier” with natural gas – all this while giving you significant savings on your energy bills.

For quality, cost and energy efficiency, you just can't beat natural gas. For more information, program details and application forms, go to [www.oklahomanaturalgas.com/rebates](http://www.oklahomanaturalgas.com/rebates).

## Homemade Soft Pretzels

### Ingredients:

1 tablespoon yeast  
 1 tablespoon sugar  
 2 cups warm water  
 5 cups flour, separated  
 1 tablespoon salt  
 1 egg  
 1 tablespoon water  
 Coarse salt  
 Vegetable oil

### Directions:

1. In a large bowl, mix together yeast, sugar and warm water. Let rest until yeast is dissolved and a little foamy.
2. Add 1 cup of flour to the yeast mixture and stir. Mix remaining 4 cups of flour with 1 tablespoon of salt, and mix into the flour and yeast mixture. Knead on a lightly floured surface until smooth.
3. Place the dough in an oiled bowl, rolling around until oil covers the dough. Cover the bowl with a clean towel and let rise until the size has doubled.
4. Remove the dough and knead gently. Cut into 16 pieces and roll each piece into a 14-inch rope. Shape into pretzel and place on greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise for 15 minutes.
5. Drop each pretzel into a small pot of boiling water for 1 minute, then place back on the greased cookie sheet.
6. Beat the egg and mix together with 1 tablespoon of water to create an egg wash.
7. Brush each pretzel with egg wash, sprinkle with coarse salt and bake in preheated 450° F oven for 12-15 minutes.

