



Important Information From Representative Meredith Strang Burgess *Keep ME Warm*

Dear Neighbor:

Old Man Winter will soon be upon us. Here in Maine, many of us are already thinking about how we are going to keep our homes warm. As oil prices continue to creep up, it's important to plan ahead, save as much as possible and help our neighbors when we can.

The following information from **Keep ME Warm**, a collaboration of several State agencies, offers tips on energy savings, information on 2-1-1 Maine and ideas on how to get community members working together to ensure there is a plan of action to help those in need if necessary. I encourage you to review the material and keep these ideas in mind. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely, *Meredith Strang Burgess*

Top 10 Energy Tips

1. Close storm windows; use drapes and shades at night to conserve heat.
2. Close flue dampers on fireplace.
3. Install faucet flow restrictors and low-flow shower heads.
4. Tune up your heating system.
5. Insulate, caulk, and weather-strip your home.
6. Remove and vacuum your furnace filter every month; replace it when it can't be vacuumed clean.
7. Close and reduce heat in all unoccupied areas.
8. Replace 60W incandescent bulbs with 13W CFLs.
9. Set your thermostat back.
10. Insulate heat pipes and duct work.

For more ways to save energy, visit www.maine.gov and click on the red energy assistance button.

Proudly serving House District 108 ~ Chebeague, Cumberland, Long Island and part of North Yarmouth
155 Tuttle Road ~ Cumberland, ME 04021
HOME: (207) 829-6264 ~ AUGUSTA: (207) 287-1440
RepMeredith.StrangBurgess@legislature.maine.gov

Join or create a local response team!

- ✳ Determine what people need, what is available and what is missing
- ✳ Determine roles for community response volunteers
- ✳ Determine the best actions to fill gaps and create a plan

Actions teams can take:

- ✳ Designate warming centers
- ✳ Create a local fuel fund
- ✳ Register local resources by calling 2-1-1 Maine or visiting www.211maine.org
- ✳ List your volunteer resources and projects on www.volunteermaine.org
- ✳ Inform town leaders
- ✳ Neighbor-to-neighbor check-ins

Call 2-1-1 Maine

For more information about resources available for heating assistance, weatherization or energy audits, call 2-1-1 Maine – a statewide health and human service information and referral line created by the United Ways of Maine, in partnership with Youth Alternatives Ingraham and the State of Maine.

In addition to heating and weatherization information, 2-1-1 Maine provides resource information related to food, shelter, legal assistance, counseling, elder services, child care and more.

Go to www.211maine.org for a searchable online listing of statewide resources.

Send an email to info@211Maine.org or dial 2-1-1 to post local response team resources.



Keep ME Warm Fund

The Keep ME Warm Fund is a statewide partnership with the goal of helping Maine people stay safe, warm and secure this winter through public and private contributions, volunteerism and advocacy.

The Keep ME Warm Fund hopes to raise money to help those who may not be eligible for limited federal, state or local fuel assistance programs. Donations to the Keep ME Warm Fund help provide emergency heating assistance and offer 24 hour 2-1-1 Maine helpline service.

If you would like to become involved with Keep ME Warm, you can find more information at

http://www.unitedwaygp.org/what_we_do/keep_me_warm.php.



Helping citizens cope with
Maine's rising energy costs.