



The ERPUD Underground

"Fuel for Thought"

Fall 2003
Published Quarterly

Elk River Public Utility District – "Your Hometown Natural Gas Provider Since 1955."
217 South Jackson Street • Phone 931 455-9311 • Fax 931 455-3187 • www.erpud.com

Early Light-Up Special Offer

*Fall is just around the corner and soon
the temperatures will be dropping.*

Natural gas safety is important all year. With cooler temperatures on the way, take advantage of our experienced and professional services to assist you with lighting and inspecting your natural gas space heating equipment.

Warm up to Savings and Safety!

You will save Time, Money and Valuable Energy by having a qualified technician check your natural gas space heating equipment for proper operation.

Help keep clean, dependable natural gas our nation's most efficient energy system!

Call now and save \$20 on the cost of any Qualifying Service Call *

* Applies to Residential and Small Commercial customers who schedule work during normal business hours.
(7:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday)
Standard service call is \$50

Please contact qualified heating and air contractors to service central duct heating systems.

This offer expires Tuesday, September 30, 2003 at 4:30 pm CST.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE Participate in Project HELP

You may add \$1.00 (or more) to your monthly bill to assist those in need of financial assistance with their energy bills. The Good Samaritan Program distributes your voluntary contributions to this project to people in our community. Please call our office for details.



INSIDE.....

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*Thanks for choosing
Natural Gas!*

Credit Card Policy Change

Due to recent incidents of credit card fraud, we can no longer accept credit card payments by telephone.

Maximize your Savings!

If your current usage is residential and for heat only, you can qualify for our lower year-round rate by having any year-round appliance installed.

**Natural Gas Appliances =
Greater Efficiency
A Cleaner Environment**

Dependability & Reduced Energy Costs

What's That Smell ?

If it smells like rotten eggs...
it may be the scent of Safety !



Natural gas is composed primarily of methane, a naturally occurring gas found beneath the earth's surface. By itself, natural gas is odorless, colorless, and tasteless. An odorant is added for your safety. This odorant makes natural gas easy to detect.

Our offices offer scratch and sniff brochures so that you can be sure your family recognizes this odor.

For more information on natural gas safety, please visit our website at www.erpud.com

*Nothing Warms You
Like Natural Gas!*

FLEXIBLE GAS CONNECTOR WARNING

A flexible connector is a fitting made of corrugated metal tubing used to connect some gas appliances to the customer's gas piping system. Most connectors are made of brass or stainless steel and are usually less than 48" in length. Some older connectors were made of uncoated brass with soldered ends.

In 1997 the Consumer Product Safety Commission released a notice warning consumers about dangerous situations resulting from older, corrugated flexible connectors used to connect gas appliances. You may visit this website to view the CPSC warning <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSC/PUB/PREREL/PRHTML97/97003.html>

It can be difficult to determine if you have a flexible connector with a soldered joint just by looking at it. It is therefore recommended that any uncoated flexible connectors be replaced with a new stainless steel or coated flexible connector.

If you prefer, you may contact Elk River Public Utility District and we will be glad to send one of our trained technicians to perform a free safety inspection to determine if you have an uncoated flexible connector on your appliance(s). If so, we will gladly replace it with a new stainless steel connector for the costs of the parts only and no labor.

Our customer's safety is our number one priority!

NATURAL GAS PRICES

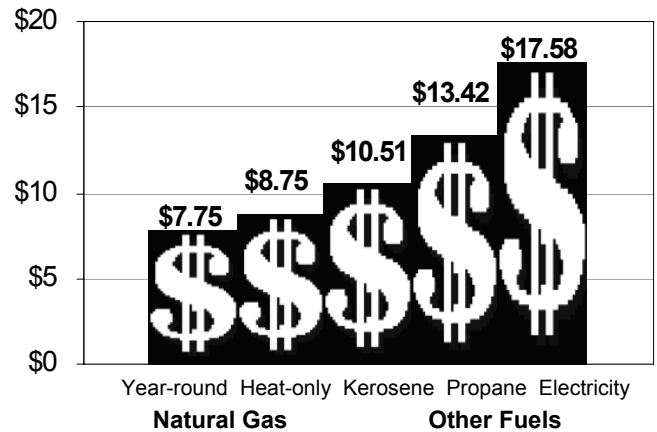
Energy prices may be up again this year. Energy analysts predict increases across the board for all types of energy including electricity, propane, kerosene, and natural gas.

At ERPUD we work very hard to keep your natural gas rates as economical as possible. In fact, our rates have not changed since October 1, 2000. The only change in our customer's price has been the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) which varies monthly based on the actual wellhead cost of gas.

While there is no way to accurately predict what the unregulated, wellhead price of natural gas may be, based on what we expect, we estimate our PGA to be \$.15 cents during the next several months.

Although we may experience a small increase in natural gas prices this year, we expect to maintain our considerable price advantage over competing fuels. In addition to being the most economical, **Natural Gas Stands Out Among The Rest** by providing significant advantages such as: **Dependability, Comfort, Low Maintenance, Abundant Supply, Environmentally Friendly, Efficient, Clean and Domestically Produced.**

Energy Cost Comparison per Million BTU



Cool Temperatures Equal More Usage

An increase in gas usage is to be expected due to cooler fall weather. We all know, when temperatures fall, consumption goes up. Energy conservation helps us all. Don't forget to spend some time reviewing your energy consumption patterns and put energy savings ideas to work for you.

Construction

Please pardon our progress.

We are continuously expanding and improving our service area to accommodate the demand for natural gas energy. We install approximately 25-30 miles of main extensions and replacements annually.

Clean up

After a new main or service is installed, you can rest assured that you'll see us again! Weather permitting, we will return within 4 to 6 weeks to perform clean up and restoration of any areas affected by the installation of natural gas lines. Should further settling occur, please feel free to notify us and we'll gladly return!



Rebates....Rebates....Rebates

Don't miss out on our valuable appliance rebate program. Call or drop by our office for details.

Natural Gas Pipeline Projects

Growing to serve you better!

Coffee County

Harton Blvd.	Complete!
Fredonia Village	In Progress
Rutledge Falls	In Progress

Franklin County

Beth Page Road	Complete!
Harris Chapel	Complete!
Hunters Landing	Complete!

Weather Effects

Wet fall weather may cause delays in installations and/or yard maintenance.

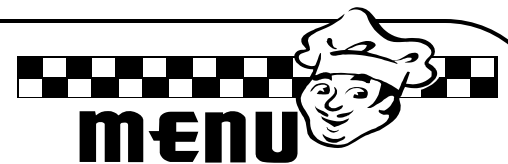
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your patience.

Carbon Monoxide

With the onset of cooler weather we want to remind you to be aware of the dangers of Carbon Monoxide. Carbon Monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless, poisonous gas. It is produced by incomplete combustion of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels. Some sources of CO include: equipment utilizing propane or natural gas, oil, kerosene, coal, wood, and charcoal. Combustion engines are also a very common source of CO. Remember to operate all equipment according to the manufacturer's recommendations. You should also consider having fuel burning equipment checked routinely by a qualified technician.

Some of the symptoms of CO poisoning include: headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately. Ventilate the area. If you think you have a CO problem with your natural gas equipment, please give us a call and we will dispatch a technician to check your equipment immediately. Help us keep natural gas the safest energy system available.

Kitchen Creations



Strawberry Buttermilk Salad

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 (16-ounce) can crushed pineapple | 1 box strawberry gelatin |
| 1 box raspberry gelatin | 2 cups buttermilk |
| 1 (8-ounce) container whipped topping | 1 cup chopped fresh strawberries, optional |

Boil pineapple; add gelatin. Allow mixture to stand until it reaches room temperature. Stir in buttermilk, whipped topping, and strawberries. Pour into a 13 x 9 inch dish; chill.

This recipe was submitted by one of our customers in Tullahoma. We really appreciate them sharing this delightful treat with us. If you have a recipe you would like to send us, please do so. We would be happy to include it in one of our future editions.

Do your home improvements include adding trees and shrubs to your landscape or installing a new fence or pool? If so, please remember to:



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

1-800-351-1111

TENNESSEE ONE -CALL SYSTEM, INC.

How are we doing?

Customer satisfaction is our goal. Are you pleased with the service you receive from Elk River Public Utility District?

If you have suggestions for improving our service, we'd like to hear them. Please call, write, or email us with your ideas.

Dates to Remember:

In observance of these holidays, our offices will be closed:

Labor Day

Monday September 1st

Thanksgiving

Thursday & Friday
November 27 & 28

Please feel free to use our after hours depositories to make your payments.

Our dispatchers are on duty 24 hrs a day to answer your call.

Visit our booth at the Coffee County Fair September 13th – 20th

Billing Due Dates

If You Live In: Your Bill Due Date is:

Manchester / Hillsboro	17th
Winchester	22nd
Tullahoma (T-1 / West)	27th
Cowan / Estill Springs / Decherd	5th
Tullahoma (T-2 / East)	10th
Sewanee / University of the South	11th
St. Andrews / Industrials	11th
Interruptible / Metered LP	11th

Please pay on time to avoid penalties and/or interruption of service. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:30. For your convenience, payments may also be made in the after hours depositories or by mail postmarked by the due date.

If payment is not received and no contact is made to our office, cut-offs will occur 5 days after the due date.

Management

- Mack Hulvey
General Manager
- Mike Gundersen
Manager of Marketing
- Eddie Moffitt
Manager of Operations
- Stacey L. Duckworth
Comptroller

Commissioners

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| John Greeter | Manchester |
| George Orr | Tullahoma |
| Cowan Simmons | Winchester |

Smell Gas?

Call 455-9311
or 967-2110

Your Safety is
our Priority

24-Hour Emergency Service

Our trained technicians are available to assist you with natural gas leaks, disturbed or broken gas lines, equipment problems, carbon monoxide calls, and other potential natural gas emergencies that may arise.

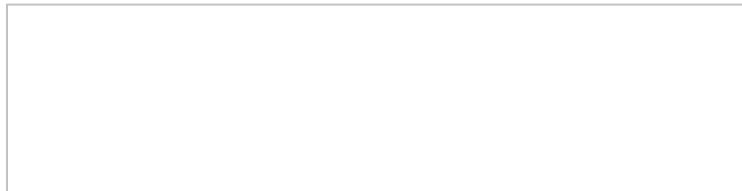
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Since 1955**

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Emergency
Service**

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Tullahoma, TN 37388
www.erpud.com

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TULLAHOMA, TN
PERMIT NO. 50

** Early Lite Up Special*



* See Details on Page 1

"Your Hometown Natural Gas Provider Since 1955."