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New Natural Gas Technologies

Energy-efficient new technologies that use natural gas provide savings in energy consumption, ensuring that these systems pay for themselves over time. Here are two exciting new technologies to look forward to:

Natural Gas Heat Pumps (GHPs)

Commercial properties and large custom homes can now heat and cool their interiors with natural gas heat pumps! Made commercially available earlier this year, this innovative system uses the same heat transfer technology as a traditional electric heat pump, but with higher efficiency and lower operating costs.

Designed to deliver superb cooling efficiencies in the high summer temperatures of the desert Southwest, this GHP system can also support as many as 33 thermostats (indoor zones) using one outdoor unit, and can be used in both ductless and ducted applications. Because the GHP runs largely on natural gas, it can potentially reduce a consumer's total energy cost, especially in areas where time-of-use electric rates apply. Additionally, in the winter, this system can be up to 60 percent more efficient than a gas furnace and produces much warmer air than an electric heat pump.

Solar Water Heater with Natural Gas Backup

Another technology on the horizon for commercial properties and custom homes is a revolutionary "hybrid" water heater that uses solar energy as the primary energy source to produce hot water. A high-efficiency natural gas back-up system picks up the slack on cloudy days and at night. Along with providing round-the-clock hot water, this state-of-the-art water heater can also be integrated with radiant floor and hydronic space heating systems.





For more information, please call the **Energy Specialists** at **1-800-654-2765.**











Standing together through difficult times

In today's tough economy, anyone can experience a financial setback. But with a little help from others, there's hope in the form of Energy Share, a program administered by the Salvation Army and supported by Southwest Gas and the generosity of its employees and customers like you.

Energy Share offers short-term emergency assistance to low-income families and seniors who, because of illness, unemployment, or other unexpected circumstances, can't keep up with mounting utility bills. One hundred percent (100%) of the tax-deductible Energy Share contributions are used to help eligible applicants.

Soon, it will be easier than ever to contribute to Energy Share. Beginning next month, a new feature will be added to your natural gas bill (see circled section above). Simply select the monthly donation level of your choice, add it to the amount due, and the Salvation Army will do the rest.

Thank you for joining us in support of this important program.



Equal or Automatic Payment Plans

Take the guesswork out of your monthly budget.

Equal Payment Plan (EPP) is a convenient program for residential customers that evenly distributes your annual natural gas costs into estimated equal monthly payments. Your usage will be reviewed on a quarterly basis and your payment may be adjusted. **Automatic Payment Plan** (APP) allows you to pay your gas bill with an automatic withdrawal from a checking or savings account.

By enrolling in APP and EPP, you will know the amount of your bill each month and that it will be paid on time. If managing your money is important, then these plans are for you.

For more information on these programs, call your local Southwest Gas office or enroll in both programs on our Web site, **www.swgas.com.**

