

# Lines

**delmarva  
power**

A PHI Company

THE NEWSLETTER FOR DELMARVA POWER CUSTOMERS IN DELAWARE

WWW.DELMARVA.COM

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## DID YOU KNOW?

*Q: I hear a lot about climate change these days, how can I get a handle on my environmental impact?*

**A:** You can determine your "carbon footprint." A carbon footprint is a measure of the impact your everyday activities have on the environment in terms of greenhouse gas emissions.

By using a Web-based carbon calculator, you can learn ways to lessen your personal impact on global warming.

Visit [www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind\\_calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html) for more information.

## Take Credit for Home Energy Improvements

Have you recently replaced your home's windows, doors, roof, insulation, HVAC, and non-solar water heater? If so, or if you've made other energy-efficient improvements to your primary residence from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007, you may be eligible for federal tax credits.

Go to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).



## Be Prepared For Winter Storms

*Blustery winds, heavy snow and freezing rain are all part of the winter weather we've come to expect in our region. Unfortunately, these conditions can cause interruptions to electric service. This can happen when tree branches and limbs fall onto power lines.*

Fortunately, when power outages do occur, you can take steps to prepare.

- Assemble a "storm kit" with plenty of fresh batteries inside. Be sure to include a flashlight, battery-operated radio or television, first-aid kit, blankets, bottled water, prescription medications, emergency contact information and non-perishable food (such as energy bars).
- Customers who have special needs or who require medical support equipment should have a plan for sustained outages – such as going to a family member's or friend's home.
- If you lose power, check to see if your neighbors have power. If not, call our customer care call center at 1-800-898-8042, to report the outage immediately.

311-12-07/DE

We're connected to you  
by more than power lines.®

## POWER OUT?

*In New Castle County, DE; Cecil and Harford Counties, MD: 1-800-898-8042  
In Kent & Sussex Counties, DE; and the Eastern Shore of MD: 1-800-898-8045  
For Natural Gas Emergencies in New Castle County, DE, ONLY: 302-454-0317*

# Natural Gas: Stay Warm and Safe This Winter

Natural gas is a safe, clean and efficient fuel for home heating, and since many people spend a little more time indoors during winter, we've listed brief tips for the cold weather season.

## Your gas appliances:

- Keep the area around your heater and water heater open, clear and free from stored items (such as boxes, books, flammable liquids, containers, etc.).
- A blocked chimney or flue on a natural gas furnace can emit deadly carbon monoxide buildup in your home so, keep your chimney and flue clean and clear from debris (such as leaves or mortar). Better yet, schedule an annual chimney cleaning by a professional technician.
- Natural gas equipment requires proper ventilation to operate safely. Be sure outside vents from direct-vent appliances (such as dryers and heaters) are free from snow, ice and rubble.

## Your gas meter:

Be sure your gas meter is free from snow and ice by following these guidelines.

- Gently clear snow using a broom or large brush.
- Keep shoveled and plowed snow piles far away from your meter.
- Never use a shovel or sharp tool to chip ice away. This can cause damage or break the meter.
- Repair gutters and downspouts that drip water onto your meter.

If your meter is encased in ice and you experience problems with your gas service, or if you smell gas - please call our gas emergency number – 302-454-0317 - immediately.\*

Visit [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com) to learn more about natural gas safety.

*\*For New Castle County Delmarva Power customers only.*



# feb.

Things to do in the region 02/08

## Delaware (Area code 302)

**Feb 2: *The Bayonets of the Revolution***; DE Public Archives, Dover; (302) 744-5047, [thomas.summers@state.de.us](mailto:thomas.summers@state.de.us), <http://archives.delaware.gov/outreach/>

**Feb 2-29: *Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nickolas Muray***; The DE Art Museum, Wilm.; 571-9590, [www.delart.org](http://www.delart.org)

**Feb 9: *Black History Month Film Festival***; Hagley's Museum, Buck Rd, Wilm.; 658-2400, [www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org)

**Feb 23: *Harry Spencer Trio***; Schwartz Center for the Arts, S. State St., Dover; (302) 736-2467 or 760-4911, [tellesje@wesley.edu](mailto:tellesje@wesley.edu)

**FOR MORE THINGS TO DO IN THE REGION, Visit: [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com)**

Click on "Community & Environment" on our Web site: [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com). To include a future event either in Lines or online, fax to: 302-283-6095, or send an e-mail to [Lines@delmarva.com](mailto:Lines@delmarva.com).

## Warm Up to Indoor Safety

Now that the cold weather is here, we are spending more time indoors. The following are electrical safety tips to help you enjoy your home even more.

- Always unplug electric appliances before repairing or cleaning.
- Never stick objects other than an electrical plug into an outlet, and if you have small children in your home, be sure to cover outlets not in use with child-proof plastic covers.
- Do not overload outlets with too many lights, appliances or other home electrical equipment.
- Never use electrical appliances in, or while near water, including wet surfaces.

- Only use appliances with the Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) symbol.
- Keep electrical cords out from under rugs and heavy furniture.
- Replace frayed or cracked electrical cords.
- Use proper wattage bulbs for your light fixtures and lamps.
- Always use the correctly sized device when replacing circuit breakers and fuses.
- Call a qualified electrician to make sure electrical repairs are made safely.

Keep these tips in mind to avoid fire or personal injury. For more safety tips, visit [www.delmarva.com](http://www.delmarva.com), and click on the "Safety & Conservation" link.