

## Save On Your Winter Bills

### Weather Stripping A Great Way to Save

Weatherstripping is an excellent, cost effective way to save money in winter – or summer for that matter! Warmed or air-conditioned air mixes with outside air through gaps in your home’s thermal envelope: exterior walls, windows, doors, the roof, and floors. These air leaks waste energy! Weather Stripping and caulking are an effective way to rid your home of costly drafts, saving you up to ten percent in heating and cooling costs. Most experts agree that the time and money invested in weather stripping and caulking windows and doors can pay off faster than almost any other home improvement you can make – even when your home is well insulated!

Besides keeping out moisture, wind, and cold air, weather stripping will block entry of dust and noise, resulting in a cleaner, quieter home. Loose fitting windows should be weather stripped with spring plastic, metal backed vinyl, or adhesive-backed foam. Weather stripping around exterior doors can be checked with a flashlight. From outside the closed door, move the flashlight slowly around the door edge. A “helper” inside the house can see the light shining through any gaps.

To determine how much weather stripping is needed, add the perimeters of all windows and doors to be weather stripped. Then add 5-10 percent to accommodate any waste.

Also, take into consideration that weather stripping comes in varying depths and widths. Here are a few basic considerations when applying the weather stripping:

- Apply to a clean, dry surface in temperatures above 20 degrees F
- Measure the area to be weather stripped twice before cutting anything
- Apply the weather stripping snugly against both surfaces. The material should compress when the window or door is shut.

### More Conservation Tips For This Winter

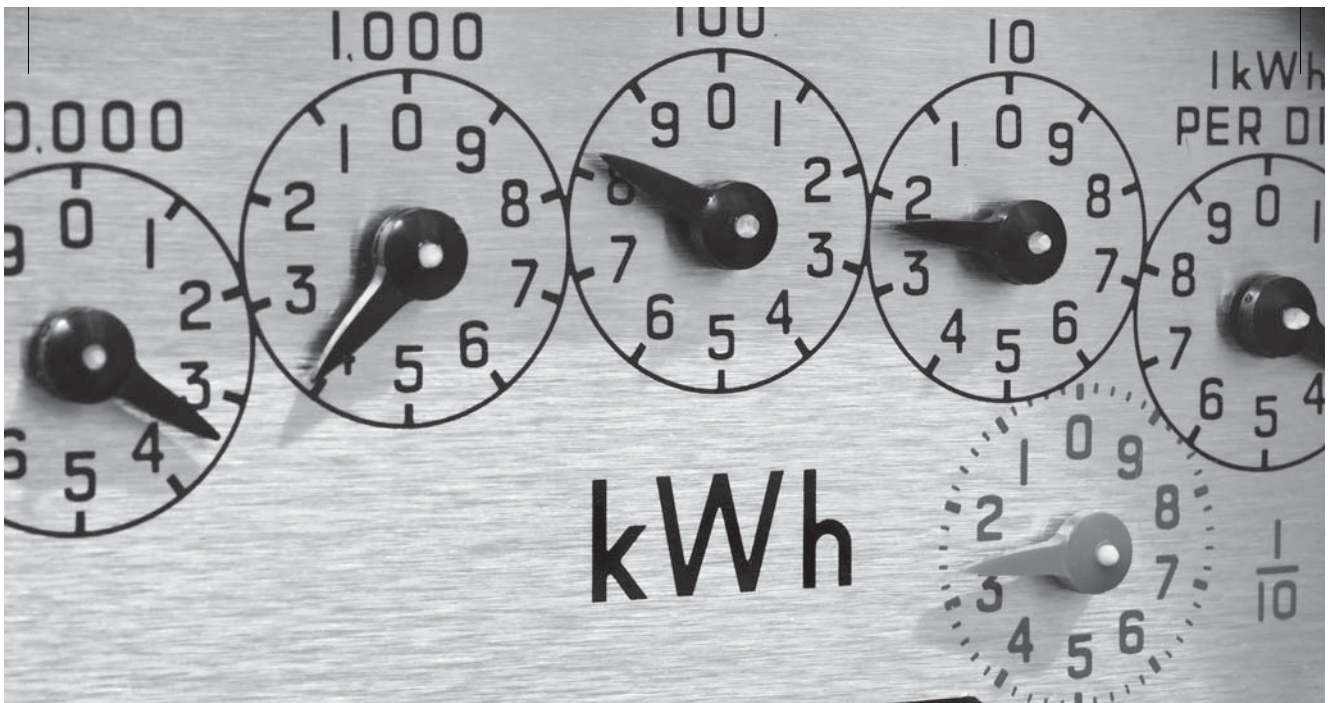
There’s more you can do to save energy and money this winter. Just following a few simple tips here can translate into savings that make energy sense!

- Set your thermostat comfortably low in the winter. An easy way to do this is by installing a programmable thermostat that is compatible with your heating system. Did you know that for every 1 degree you lower your thermostat it translates into a 3% savings on your heating bill?
- Instead of turning up the heat, dress in layers of clothing to increase your comfort. For example, put on a sweater. A light, long-sleeved sweater equals almost 2 degrees in added warmth, while a heavy, long sleeved sweater adds about 4 degrees.
- When you turn down your water heater just ten degrees, you can save about 13% in water heating costs. A safe temperature setting is 120 degrees, typically hot enough for your daily household needs and cool enough to keep the heater running efficiently. Why not consider using cold water for laundry and other household tasks?
- Don’t let the cold air in! An open fireplace flue is like an open window that lets warm air escape through the chimney. Keep your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning to prevent heated air from escaping through the chimney!

Let TMLP help you achieve your energy savings goals! Visit [www.TMLP.com](http://www.TMLP.com) to learn about our **House N Home Thermal Rebate Program** and also how to take advantage of the FREE Home Energy Audit. Click on the “For the Home” link, then “Energy Efficiency” to learn all the information! Or, call 1-888-772-4242 to schedule your audit.

### Thank You!

TMLP & TMLP Online appreciate our customers, and thank you to those who took the time to answer our Customer Satisfaction Survey. Your opinions matter and we look forward to seeing how we did as your local Municipal Electric Company and Internet Service Provider.



## TMLP Adjusts Rates To Reflect Service Costs

The TMLP Board of Commissioners has recently voted to restructure electric rates. Effective with bills dated on February 1, 2016, TMLP customers will be billed with newly restructured rates. These changes are a result of evaluating the true cost of service to all TMLP customers.

“Due to increased transmission expenses and reduced energy expenses, it is necessary to make adjustments to the rates in order for TMLP to appropriately recover its costs and collect proper revenue based on each individual rate component,” stated TMLP Business Manager Kim Holmes. “In general, the decrease in energy expenses has offset the increase in transmission expenses” according to Holmes. “The impact of this restructuring is relatively mild to the ratepayer. Depending on consumption, many bills will actually be slightly lower.”

An average 500 kWh bill from an Investor Owned Utility (IOU), which exists to pay shareholders a return on their investment, is expected to be over 20% higher than a bill for the same energy from TMLP. The publicly owned TMLP does not have shareholders to earn money for, rather conducting business to maintain cost-competitive rates and the greatest efficiency for its customer / owners.

TMLP General Manager Kenneth Goulart stated, “While the electric utility customer rates in our region continue to trend up, the average TMLP residential customer should see a slight decrease in their bill with this current restructuring”.

**Sign up for a Free Home Energy Audit!**  
**Call 1-888-772-4242**



[www.tmlp.com](http://www.tmlp.com)

55 Weir Street, P.O. Box 870  
 Taunton, MA 02780

**Customer service for electric customers**  
 (508) 824-6976

**Outage-related call**  
 (508) 824-3111

**Administrative offices**  
 (508) 824-5844

**Dig Safe issue**  
 (888) 344-7233

**Office hours**  
 Monday through Friday  
 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**Payment locations**  
 33 Weir Street  
 Our office is open  
 Monday through Friday

**Drop boxes**  
 33 and 55 Weir Street  
 (to the left of the front door)

**Trucchi's Supermarket**  
 53 Tremont Street  
 534 County Street

**TMLP Online help desk**  
 Monday through Friday  
 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

**Commissioners**  
 Joseph Martin, Chairman  
 Mark Blackwell Sr., Secretary  
 Peter Corr

**General Manager**  
 Kenneth Goulart