

# Your Energy Connection



August 2014

## Switch to Natural Gas and Save!

Are you looking for ways to save money on energy costs? Consider switching to natural gas! It's the reliable, energy-efficient and affordable choice.

### It's closer than you think

Rocky Mount Public Utilities (RMPU) is continually expanding natural gas services in Rocky Mount and the surrounding areas. Currently, natural gas is available in Nash and Edgecombe counties, including Rocky Mount, Nashville, and Battleboro.

### Uses for natural gas

There are so many ways to use natural gas in the home: furnaces, clothes dryers, outdoor lights, outdoor grills, water heaters, stoves/ranges, fireplace logs, pool and spa heaters, patio heaters and fire pits.

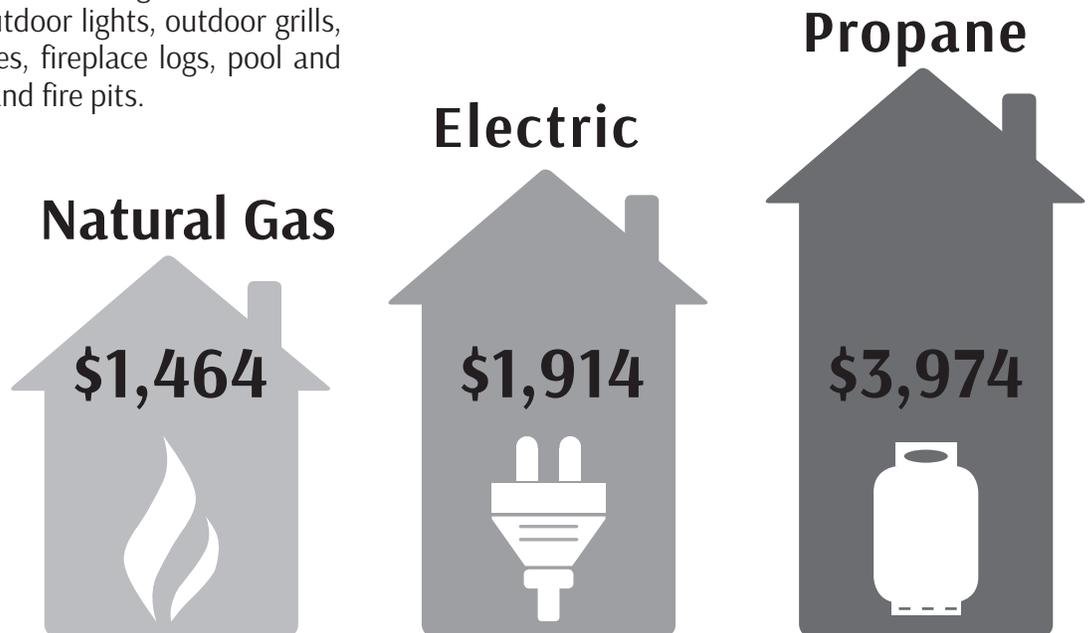
Natural gas provides continuous hot water (with tankless water heaters), faster drying times for clothes, and precise cooking temperatures. Plus, natural gas is one of the cleanest and safest energy sources available.

### Incentive Program

RMPU offers an incentive program to encourage customers outside the City's electric territory (including homeowners, builders, developers, and general contractors) to

install natural gas appliances. Customers converting or replacing their heating system, water heater, clothes dryer and/or cooking range from any fuel source (other than the RMPU's electric system) are eligible for the incentive program. For more information about the incentive program or to apply, visit [www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/gas incentives.html](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/gas incentives.html), email [energyspecialist@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:energyspecialist@rockymountnc.gov) or call (252) 972-1269.

**Apply for Natural Gas service today! Call Customer Service at (252) 972-1250.**



## Residential Annual Energy Costs<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Total annual combined cost of home heating, water heating, clothes drying and cooking



**How much could you save by switching from propane to natural gas?** Use the **Natural Gas Calculator** at [www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/gascalculators.html](http://www.rockymountnc.gov/utilities/gascalculators.html) to calculate the savings. (For quick access, scan the QR code using your mobile device.)



## Save Money on your Electric Bill!

Sign up for the **Load Management Program** to receive one or more of the following billing credits:



**Water Heater:**  
**\$2/month**  
January through December



**Central Air Conditioner:**  
**\$20/month**  
July August September



**Heat Strips:**  
**\$15/month**  
January February March

By using Load Management switches, RMPU is able to hold down the cost of providing power. These savings are passed on to you in the form of a monthly credit on your electricity bill. There is no cost to you for the switches or installation.

**(252) 467-4803**  
**[utilities.rockymountnc.gov](http://utilities.rockymountnc.gov)**



**Public Power and Public Natural Gas Week** is October 5-11, 2014! More information about events and activities will be coming soon in the September edition of *Your Energy Connection* newsletter.

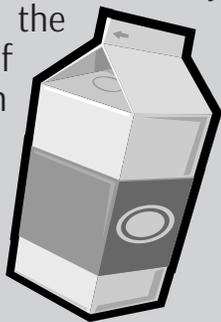
## Energy Share Funds Still Available!

The City of Rocky Mount Energy Share program funds are still available for RMPU electric and natural gas customers. Receive a cash rebate of up to \$500 for attic insulation and/or up to \$500 for a new HVAC system. Program requirements apply. Call Community Development at (252) 972-1102 for information or to request an application.

## The Milk Carton Test

It takes energy to heat water, so if you can use hot water more efficiently you can save energy.

To find out if your shower is using more water than necessary, open an empty, half-gallon cardboard milk carton and hold it up to your showerhead while fully on. Be sure to catch all the water that comes out. If the carton fills in less than 10 seconds, your shower could use an energy-efficient showerhead. You can install low-flow heads on faucets, too.



**Visit the e-SMARTkids website at [www.rockymount.e-smartonline.net](http://www.rockymount.e-smartonline.net) to check out this experiment and others!**

For quick access, scan the QR code using your smartphone or other mobile device. Free QR-code readers are available for download from your app store.



## e-SMARTkids Website Available for Kids, Parents and Teachers!

Rocky Mount Public Utilities (RMPU) provides a fun, interactive website called e-SMARTkids. The website is an educational resource for kids, parents and teachers that features fun facts, games, experiments, videos and activities.

Topics include electricity, natural gas, water, energy, and conservation of the earth's resources.

e-SMARTkids also gives parents the tools to encourage children to get involved in conservation and preservation.

Teachers can use e-SMARTkids to reinforce classroom material and make lessons come alive by using the experiments, worksheets, and activities. The curriculum-based material and activities adhere to the NC State Performance Standards in science and health education for grades 1-6.

The e-SMARTkids website is a great resource and learning tool for both children and adults. Check it out at [www.rockymount.e-smartonline.net](http://www.rockymount.e-smartonline.net)!

