

Responsibly serving our customers beyond their expectations.



Our offices will be closed
Monday, September 5th.

Save the Date

OCT 3-7

Public Natural Gas Week

Fall Light Up Schedule

Sept. 6-23: FREE

Sept. 26-Oct. 7: \$10

Oct. 10-14: \$20

After Oct. 14th: \$30

Call to schedule yours today!

Oak Ridge: (865) 483-1377

Kingston: (865) 376-9834

Veterans Day Luncheon

Calling all military, veteran and active duty!

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for your free lunch on Friday, November 11th. We want to honor you and your service to our country while proving a delicious meal! In order to ensure your safety, we're giving our veterans the option to come inside for your meal, or drive by for a packaged lunch to go. We will have social distancing measures in place inside. If you decide on the drive-through option, you will not have to leave the comfort of your own vehicle!

WHO: ORUD Customers who have served in the US Armed Forces

WHEN: Friday, November 11th, 2022 between 11:30am-1:00pm

WHERE: ORUD, 120 South Jefferson Circle, Oak Ridge, TN

HOW: To register, please RSVP by Friday, November 4th

Once you fill out the information below, there are 3 ways to RSVP.

- ◆ **Mail it to:**
ORUD Veterans Day Lunch
120 S. Jefferson Circle
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
- ◆ **Email your information to:** RSVP@orud.org
- ◆ **Call with your information:**
Nikki Adkisson at (865) 220-6063

Name of Veteran or Active Duty: _____

Branch of Service: _____

I'll be attending (please check one): in person by drive-thru pick up

Best Winter Practices to Combat Rising Costs

Natural gas market prices have increased significantly from this time last year. The Department of Energy estimates people who use natural gas to heat their homes may pay as much as 30 percent more this year. The increase is attributable to a variety of factors including higher domestic gas demand for electric power generation and increased export of U.S.-produced natural gas. ORUD is alerting customers to prepare for higher natural gas bills this winter season.

To help keep costs low, ORUD purchases natural gas at the lowest possible price and then passes this cost directly to customers. In addition, ORUD uses underground storage to take advantage of lower commodity costs by purchasing natural gas in the summer months (when commodity prices are traditionally lower) to withdraw later in the season and offset higher winter costs.

There are several ways you can conserve and save money by using energy conservation tips, tools, and assistance programs to help prepare for higher winter bills. Now is a good time to make sure your household is prepared before cold weather hits!

- ◆ Set your thermostat at 68° or lower when you're home. Every degree below 68° can save 4% on your heating bills.
- ◆ Wear layered clothing and thick socks to keep warm; then set your thermostat even lower.
- ◆ At bedtime, lower your thermostat and add extra blankets.
- ◆ Lower the setting on your thermostat when leaving your home for four hours or more.
- ◆ Close garage doors, cover foundation vents, and close off vents and doors to seldom-used rooms.
- ◆ Keep curtains and blinds closed at night and on cloudy days; open curtains on sunny days for warmth.
- ◆ Adjust your water heater temperature to 120° or "warm." It still provides hot water and avoids scalding. You can also lower it when it's not in use.
- ◆ Add more insulation in your attic.

ORUD also offers a Levelized Billing option to help stabilize spikes in your monthly natural gas bill amount. Spreading out monthly costs more evenly helps customers ease bill fluctuations throughout the year. You will be able to sign up for Levelized Billing at any point during the year, as long as you have 12 months of usage history at your address.

For those customers experiencing financial hardship and requiring help with energy costs, we encourage them to contact one of our customer service representatives and discuss available energy assistance programs. One of these programs that ORUD sponsors is ADFAC's Project SAFE (Special Assistance Fund for Energy). This program is used to help customers with energy emergencies, regardless of the type of energy used. Additional information on energy assistance is available on our website.