

Florence Energy News



\$300 TAX CREDIT: NATURAL GAS TANKLESS WATER HEATERS

You do not use hot water 24 hours a day. However, you are paying to heat water 24 hours a day. With a standard water heater, you heat and reheat the same water even when you are sleeping.

The natural gas tankless water heater is a more efficient way to heat water. The tankless water heater heats water quickly and delivers an endless supply of hot water for as long as you need it. With a tankless water heater, you only pay to heat water when you need it and for as long as you want it.

A tankless water heater can provide up to 240 gallons of hot water an hour every hour. This allows home owners to use multiple hot water sources at one time without any loss of temperature consistency. So never worry about running out of hot water again.

The natural gas tankless water heater is a gas fired water heater that only heats water when it senses a demand from an open water source. Unlike antiquated water tanks that constantly store and reheat water, the tankless water heater shuts off automatically when the water source tap is closed, providing its users with significant energy cost savings. It can also be set to operate at exact user-specifiable temperatures via the digital and easy-to-use control panel placed in multiple locations of the home.

NEW CONSUMER ENERGY- EFFICIENCY TAX CREDITS

The Energy Tax Incentives Act of 2005, a part of the new national energy law signed by the President of the United States on August 8, 2005, provides

valuable federal tax credits for consumers who employ energy-efficient products in their homes, including natural gas tankless water heaters. According to the Act, persons that purchase a *qualifying* tankless water heater at the full purchase price are eligible for a one time tax credit of up to \$300. A *qualifying* natural gas tankless water heater is one that must have an Energy Factor (EF) of at least 0.08. Only some tankless water heaters currently reach this efficiency level. This tax credit went into effect January 1, 2006, and continues through December 31, 2007, with the potential for renewal beyond this date.

HOW TO CLAIM YOUR TAX CREDIT

Claiming your tax credit is just three simple steps away.

1. Find a dealer and purchase your *qualifying* natural gas tankless water heater
2. Keep your natural gas tankless water heater purchase receipt
3. Consult your accountant, attorney, financial advisor, or tax advisor for more information and to obtain the proper tax credit claim forms

For more information about the natural gas tankless water heater or the \$300 tax credit, please contact Randy Fannin at the City of Florence Natural Gas Department, 767-3430 extension 218.

SAVING ENERGY AND MONEY

Insulation works to help keep your home warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Air leaks between your home's interior and the outdoors can be a constant drain of energy and money. Checking your home for air leaks and the level of insulation is a good way to save money and energy.



- Check the level of insulation in your exterior and basement walls, ceilings, attic, floors, and crawl spaces.
- Check for holes or cracks around your walls, ceilings, windows, doors, light and plumbing fixtures, switches, and electrical outlets that can leak air into or out of your home.
- Check for open fireplace dampers.



You can also save energy and money by making sure your appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained. The best sources of information on the maintenance of these products are the maintenance manuals provided by the manufacturers. Also, provided below are tips you can use to keep these appliances and systems operating efficiently.

- Keep heating and cooling coils free of dust and dirt.
- Keep heating surfaces, such as hot plates and burners, clean.
- Clean or replace any filters as needed. Forced-air heating system filters should be replaced monthly during the heating season, unless they are metallic-mesh electrostatic filters, in which case they should be cleaned.

**ATTENTION:
FLORENCE UTILITIES**

WILL BE CLOSED

LABOR DAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2006

August-September Calendar of Events

August 12:

**"Grand Ole Opry"
Impersonation and Variety Show**

Benefits CASA of
Florence/Lauderdale County

Location: Florence Freshman
Center

Hours: 7pm

Tickets: adults \$8 advance, \$10 at door
children \$4 advance, \$4 at door

Contact: 765-0041, Rhonda Bogus



August 25-26:

Killen Founder's Day 2006

Location: Town of Killen and Killen Park

Hours: 6pm-10pm Friday
8am-10pm Saturday

Admission: Free Contact: 757-1246

September 15:

**Swamp John's at St. Michael's Gym
Benefits Park and Community Center**

Location: St. Michael's Gym, St. Florian

Hours: 4pm-7pm

Contact: 767-3690

September 19-24:

North Alabama State Fair

Location: North Alabama State Fairgrounds

Hours: 5pm Tuesday-Friday
Noon Saturday-Sunday

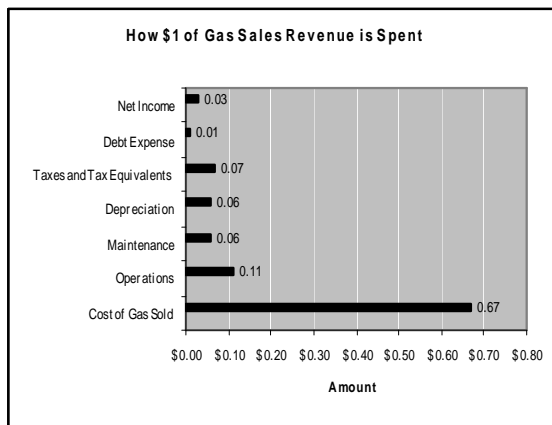
Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 children (6-12),
5 years & under-free

Contact: 383-1817

HOW \$1 OF GAS SALES REVENUE IS SPENT

The City of Florence Natural Gas Department began operations in May of 1950. At this time, all of the natural gas was transported across O'Neal Bridge from a tap in Sheffield to serve the 2,400 customers.

In 1983, the department acquired its first tap off a major pipeline in Lauderdale County and built a pipeline from Oakland into Florence. By 1998, we had our fifth tap and gate station providing our system with one of the best integrated gas supplies in the United States.



The bar graph above illustrates how \$1 of gas sales revenue is spent. The department is financed through the sales of natural gas.

Today, with its high-pressure distribution system, the City of Florence Natural Gas Department re-sells natural gas to 15,375 customers. Natural gas is the clean and economical energy choice of thousands of home owners in Florence, Alabama.

August 2006
Volume 5, No. 12

Florence ENERGY

NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM FLORENCE UTILITIES

The Energy Tax Incentives Act of 2005, a part of the new national energy law signed by the President of the United States on August 8, 2005, provides valuable federal tax credits for consumers who employ energy-efficient products in their homes, including natural gas tankless water heaters. According to the Act, persons that purchase a *qualifying* tankless water heater at the full purchase price are eligible for a one time tax credit of up to \$300. The natural gas tankless water heater is a very efficient way to heat water. Read more about the advantages of the tankless water heater inside.

Also, in this issue is information about how \$1 of gas sales revenue is spent. The City of Florence Natural Gas Department provides service to 15,375 customers. The department is financed through the sales of natural gas.

Insulation works to help keep your home warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Checking your home for air leaks and the level of insulation is a good way to save money and energy. Look over the tips inside for ways you can conserve energy and save money.

www.florenceutilities.com