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Stabilizing today's energy prices



For heating oil customers, the good news today is that prices are 40% lower than they were two years ago. Given the economy, this couldn't have happened at a better time. But we think energy prices can be more stable.



What drives today's energy prices?

There are several factors that are causing energy prices (crude oil, natural gas, electricity, coal, propane, etc.) to rise and fall now:

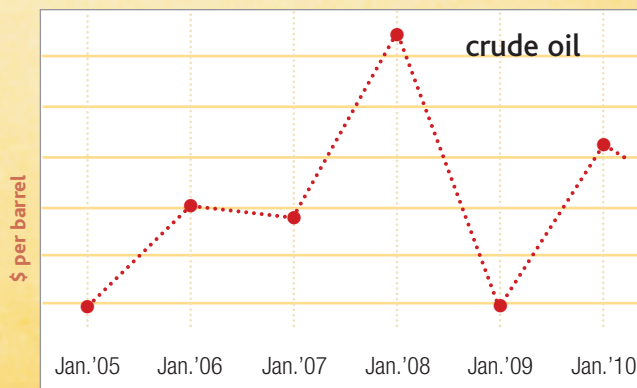
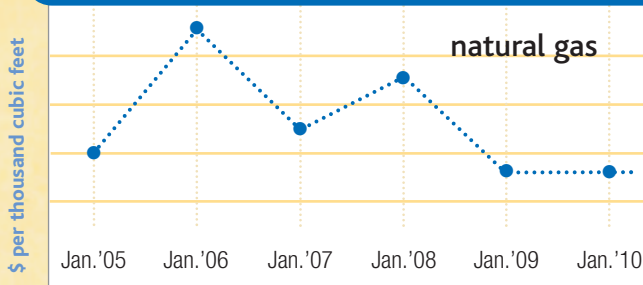
- the pace of economic recovery
- levels of inventory
- severe weather

Market speculators

All of these factors contribute to the normal trends of the energy markets. But “speculation” is the catalyst that fuels the extremes we have seen in recent years. Speculators from giant banks, hedge funds and even pension funds “bet” on which way the markets will move, hoping to make money from their investments.

Speculators neither use, nor deliver, a single drop of fuel. For them, volatility isn't a problem; it's an opportunity. But the rest of us get caught in the whipsaw effect of increased costs and uncertainty. It hits homeowners like you in the wallet, and has other ripple effects. For example, for fuel dealers like us, the cost of hedging programs (which help stabilize prices) has risen dramatically.

Price volatility affects all fuels



What can be done?

There are currently bills before Congress to prevent excessive speculation in the energy markets. For information about the status of these proposed laws, and to find out which of your legislators to contact, please visit: www.StopOilSpeculationNow.com.

The best way to control your home's energy costs is to conserve. The Consumer Energy Council of America says switching fuels is a "costly and long-term gamble," potentially costing you thousands in conversion and installation costs. **However, replacing your equipment with a modern, efficient oilheat system can reduce your fuel bills by as much as 30%.**

Join our monthly payment plan. We can spread your payments over most of the year to take short-term peaks out of your bills. This will reduce your winter payments significantly.



For more tips on conserving energy, visit
www.OilheatAmerica.com.