



# The Natural News

## Iowa Natural Gas Association

9001 Hickman Road, Suite 220, Des Moines, Iowa 50322  
www.iowanaturalgasassociation.org

Spring, 2008

## IOWA NATURAL GAS - INTRODUCES NEW WEBSITE

Iowa Natural Gas Association introduces new website:  
[www.iowanaturalgasassociation.org](http://www.iowanaturalgasassociation.org)

The website just went live with its new look and new features. The main feature is the multiple link sights that are available. We have a list of categories, which are followed with links in that category.

### THE CATEGORIES ARE:

- ▶ Alternate fuels
- ▶ City Codes
- ▶ Code requirements
- ▶ Cost to operate NG Appliances
- ▶ Dealers, Heating Equipment
- ▶ Distributors of Natural Gas Equipment
- ▶ Energy Conservation
- ▶ Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines
- ▶ Government
- ▶ Natural Gas Utilities
- ▶ Natural Gas Associations
- ▶ News/Technology items
- ▶ Piping and installation materials
- ▶ Safety Equipment and operations
- ▶ Supplier of Heating Equipment

The objective of the site is to provide a link source for information about the Natural Gas industry and the Energy industry for our members and the general public. The site will always be under construction as we continue to find new sites that would be of value to the users.

We solicit your input as to what you would like to find in the list of links and also to share with us some of your favorite links that we can add to our lists. Many of the links that we have are just suggestions. If you should have some better ideas or links that would fit in the categories that we have, please let us know. The best way to do that would be with an email to [info@iowanaturalgasassociation.com](mailto:info@iowanaturalgasassociation.com) or just click on the "contact us" located on the home page.

**New categories can be added at anytime! If there is one you would like to see added let us know. This is your website and your input is very important to make it usable and a tool for you on the information highway.**

Check the website out and give us your feedback about anything else we can do to enhance the usability of the site. We believe it can be a beneficial tool to the members and the public. Your feedback is vital to assist us with direction to assure this benefit it put to use.

*(continued on page 2)*

**Iowa Natural Gas Association**

HOME ABOUT MEMBER LISTINGS NEWSLETTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Ph: 515-278-8700  
Fax: 515-278-0245  
CONTACT US

**Welcome to the website of the Iowa Natural Gas Association (INGA).**

The INGA is comprised of private and public gas utilities, heating and appliance dealers, municipal gas systems, equipment manufacturers, advertising and media organizations and affiliated members.

Co-op Advertising Dollars Available to Dealer Members.  
If you would like the opportunity to receive \$500 this year to help cover your advertising expense, call the association office and ask our staff to mail you the "Co-op Request Form". It's easy! We want to partner with you! Let's work together and both receive some credit.

Call today to learn more about Iowa Natural Gas Association's Dealer Co-op Advertising Program.

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## IOWA NATURAL GAS ASSOCIATION

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it looks like spring is finally arriving. Over the last month or so I have had quite a number of folks comment to me about how long this past winter was and how ready they are for summer. I even had one person tell me in March to pinch or slap him if he ever complains about the hot weather this summer!

So, since it seemed to be a popular discussion topic, I thought I would do some checking and let you know just how cold this past winter was compared to previous years. What I found was that the total heating degree days for this past winter, (November to March), were 5,991. Not surprisingly to many, that is about 17% more degree days, (or colder), than the previous winter. What might surprise you is that the 5,991 number is only about 6% colder than the 30 year average winter level. In other words, we basically had a very slightly colder winter for Iowa. I guess why a lot of folks thought that it was so cold is that it was much colder than the previous year. Additionally, we had not experienced a "normal" winter for so long that we all got a little spoiled. Once you think about, being able to get in a round of golf in December or February, like people did in the previous winter, is just not normal for Iowa, (even though it was enjoyable). So I guess we will just have to get used to normal winters going forward.

I hope you enjoy this issue from the Iowa Natural Gas Association. There is some good information on total energy efficiency, the environmentally friendly aspects of natural gas, and the formal announcement of our newly remodeled web site!! Please check it out and let us know what you think.

As the weather warms up and you head outside for more activities, enjoy yourself but please drive carefully as there will be more children out playing.

As always, please feel free to provide me, the other board members, or our staff with your thoughts, comments or concerns at any time. We always appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Matt*

Matt O'Reilly  
INGA President

*(Continued from page 1)*

### NEW WEBSITE MEMBERSHIP LIST

The membership list has some new features on the new website with more information and contact information.

The list includes:

- ▶ Member Company Names
- ▶ Contact Person
- ▶ City
- ▶ Phone number
- ▶ Email address link (if available)
- ▶ Website link (if available)

If your company has a website or email address that is not included, please provide that information to the office by sending an email using the "contact us" link.

## CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT ON FURNACES

If you own or owned a Carrier, Bryant, Payne or Day & Night gas furnace manufactured in December 1988 you could get benefits from a class action settlement.

A nationwide settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit about whether Carrier Corporation ("Carrier") failed to disclose alleged defects in the secondary heat exchangers of its high efficiency gas furnaces. The settlement provides benefits to those who own or owned a high efficiency gas furnace. Although your legal rights are not affected by the settlement, you may be eligible to receive benefits if you own or owned a Carrier, Bryant, Payne or Day & Night high efficiency gas furnace with a PPL secondary heat exchanger that was manufactured in December 1988. If you still own your gas furnace, you will automatically receive an enhanced 20-year warranty and you may request a payment for up to \$270 for a past secondary heat exchanger failure. To request a payment for a past secondary heat exchanger failure you must complete and submit a claim form. You can submit a claim form at [www.FurnaceClaims.com](http://www.FurnaceClaims.com).

*The model numbers for Carrier are:* 58SXB060---131GG, 58SXB080---131GG, and 58SXB100---131HG

*The model numbers for Bryant/Payne/Day & Night are:* 398BAZ036060ACKA, 398BAZ042100ACKA, 398BAZ036080ACKA

*\* Only those with serial numbers 4988, 5088, 5188, or 5288 in the first four positions (i.e. 4988xxxxxx) are eligible for benefits.*

The claim form describes what you must provide to prove your claim and receive a payment. Please read the instructions carefully, fill out the claim form, and submit it online or mail it postmarked no later than August 1, 2008 to the address on the form.

## USING NATURAL GAS CONSERVES ENERGY AND LOWER EMISSIONS

More than 69 million homes and businesses in the United States use natural gas, according to the American Gas Association. Using natural gas in their appliances or heating and processing equipment also helps to conserve energy and protect our environment. Compared to electricity produced by burning natural gas, coal, or oil, the direct use of natural gas to power efficient appliances and equipment is much more energy efficient and produces far fewer emissions.

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## DIRECT USE OF NATURAL GAS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Aside from helping to conserve energy, the direct use of natural gas can help the environment by lowering greenhouse gas emissions caused by electric power generation. Electric power generation produces carbon dioxide emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>) at more than three times the rate of natural gas consumption. According to EIA data [3], an average of 1.34 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> is produced per kWh of electricity generated. An equivalent amount of natural gas (3412 BTUs) produces only about 0.4 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Overall, according to the Annual Energy Review, electricity generation and consumption produces more than twice the amount greenhouse gas emissions than natural gas. Clearly, the direct use of natural gas can have important environmental benefits.

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## NATURAL GAS: THE CLEAN AND EFFICIENT ENERGY CHOICE

Choosing natural gas to fuel your appliances and equipment can have important benefits in terms cost and efficiency. Lowering electric demand helps to reduce consumer energy costs for both gas and electric. The superior efficiency and emissions profile of natural gas production, transmission, and distribution, compared to electric power generation, helps to conserve precious natural resources while improving the health of our environment.

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## NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE UPDATE

The 2006 National Fuel Gas Code is currently undergoing its regular revision cycle, which will result in the publication of the 2009 edition. As of March 2008, the Committee has approved revisions. Additional revisions are possible as the revision cycle is completed by July 2008. Summary of the revisions can be found on the AGA website at the following address:

<http://www.aga.org/Kc/resourcesbydiscipline/OperationsEngineering/codesandstds/nationalfuelgascode/2009CodeInformation/>

Des Moines, Iowa 50322  
 Suite 220  
 9001 Hickman Road



## DIRECT USE OF NATURAL GAS AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

Fueling appliances and equipment directly with natural gas is a much more efficient use of this resource than using it to produce electricity and then transporting it across the grid to power those same appliances and machines. When deciding between natural gas and electric appliances and equipment, consumers can often be confused by efficiency ratings. For example, a typical high efficiency electric water heater may have an efficiency rating of 90%, while a high efficiency gas unit may be rated at 65%. Sounds like the electric unit is a much more efficient use of resources, right? Well, not when you consider the total fuel cycle, which is the overall efficiency in delivering energy from its source to the ultimate consumer. In this case, natural gas is the clear winner—90% vs. 31% for electricity—according to analysis of energy flow data from the Annual Energy Review.

The following helps to illustrate this point by considering our example of the high efficiency water heaters. The electric water heater has a 90% efficiency rating, while the gas unit has a 65% rating. When you consider total fuel cycle, however, a different story emerges. The electric water heater has a total fuel cycle efficiency of 28%, while the gas unit comes in at 58%.

### Overall Efficiency of Electric Water Heater

- Electric water heater efficiency 90%
- Electric generation, transportation, and distribution efficiency 31%
- Cumulative efficiency 28%

### Overall Efficiency of Natural Gas Water Heater

- Natural gas water heater efficiency 65%
- Gas wellhead to consumer efficiency 90%
- Cumulative efficiency 58%

In other words, if you consider the amount of energy generated to power the electric water heater, only 28% of that is actually used by the water heater. The natural gas water heater, on the other hand, uses 58% of its “fuel cycle” energy.

## IOWA NATURAL GAS ASSOCIATION 2008 CO-OP ADVERTISING AVAILABLE FOR DEALER MEMBERS

The co-op program for advertising can be used for newspaper, radio, TV, magazine, shoppers, and/or yellow pages. INGA will pay 25% of the ad cost for a maximum of \$500 for the year from March 1 to December 5, 2008.

### GUIDELINES:

1. Dealer’s request for funds for 2008 must be received prior to the ad being published.
2. The advertisement must promote the efficient and environmental attributes of natural gas and/or appliances. Descriptive words identifying the benefits of using natural gas such as **clean, efficient, cost effective, save, environmentally clean, comfortable, energy saving**, are suggested to be used.
3. The dealer’s cost must equal or exceed the dollar amount of the INGA’s contribution.
4. The INGA tag line “Gas – The All American Fuel” and “Member of the Iowa Natural Gas Association” must appear on the ad. The tagline must be equal or greater than the normal size print used in the ad and prominently displayed. The word GAS must be used at least two more times in the copy. For example: gas heating, gas efficient appliance, comfortable gas heating, etc.
5. The co-op ads cannot include information on add-on electric heat pumps.

### REIMBURSEMENT:

1. The dealer will prepare, place and pay for the advertisement including the guidelines provided at the advertiser’s local earned rate.
2. The dealer will invoice INGA for the portion of the cost approved by the association along with a tear sheet or proof of airing of the advertisement. A copy of the advertising bill to the dealer must also be included. Send support documents to:

INGA  
 9001 Hickman Rd, Ste 220  
 Des Moines IA 50322

3. Payments will be made directly to the dealer.
4. Payment for 2008 ads must be submitted by December 5, 2008.
5. For additional information call the INGA office at 515-278-8700.