What's Current February 2016





Turn Up the Heat on **\$avings** this Winter

NOVEC's online Home*Energy*Suite is loaded with tools to help members save energy and money on their electric bills. The "Heating Calculator" performs a quick and easy estimated annual cost comparison of different heating options, while the "Space Heaters" calculator details the monthly cost of operating one, or more, space heaters. Also, the "Thermostat Calculator" estimates the savings gained by installing and setting a programmable thermostat. **These calculators and more are available at www.novec.com/homeenergysuite.**

Scholarship and Youth Tour Deadlines Approaching



Scholarship: Don't miss the March 14, 2016, deadline for the NOVEC Scholarship Program, which awards \$1,500 to high school seniors in Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, and Stafford counties as well as the City of Manassas Park — where NOVEC provides electric service. Additionally, a single \$1,500 scholarship is awarded to a home-schooled or private school student. **Visit www.novec.com/scholarships to access the scholarship information and application.**



Youth Tour: For high school students graduating in 2017 and 2018, the deadline to apply for the NOVEC Youth Tour is February 24. If you know a high school student with a passion for government and politics and would like to visit Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Virginia, have him or her apply for NOVEC's Youth Tour program. Five students who receive electric power from NOVEC will be selected for this all-expense-paid once-ina-lifetime trip. **Visit www.novec.com/youthtour for additional information and to download the application, or e-mail a request to youthtour@novec.com.**

Congratulations!

Mr. Ebrahim Yahyapoor of Centreville won this quarter's new customer survey drawing and received a \$25 Lowe's gift card.



Wash Away a Stressful Day

with help from a NOVEC Solutions energy-efficient water heater.

Don't wait until your old water heater starts to leak! Contact NOVEC Solutions for a competitively priced, energy-efficient gas or electric water heater.

Learn more at www.novec.com/ns, email novecsolutions@novec.com, or call toll free 1-888-335-0500.

MARATHON WATER HEATERS Limited Lifetime Warranty Now in STOCK!



Space Heaters: How to Keep Warm and Stay Safe



During the winter months, people often turn to portable space heaters in addition to their home-heating system to keep warm. Space heaters can deliver additional needed heat; however, if used improperly they can be a safety hazard. In fact, the National Fire Protection Association credits portable heating equipment as the second leading cause of home fires in the United States.

Choosing the Right Space Heater

Space heaters come in various types with different fuel sources — kerosene, gas, or electric. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends selecting a unit certified for safe operation by the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or another nationally recognized testing organization. Make sure to look for heaters with a guard around the flame or heating element. This will help to keep children, pets and clothing away from the heat source.

Safe Operating Practices

In addition to following all manufacturers' instructions, it is important to keep these safety precautions in mind:

- Avoid using fuel-fired heaters in small spaces or poorly ventilated areas to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
- When using a fuel-fired heater in an enclosed area, install a carbon monoxide detector to alert you to dangerous levels.
- Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- Place heaters at least three feet away from bedding, furniture, and drapes, or where objects could fall on the heater. Never use heaters to dry clothes or shoes.
- Do not place your heater on rugs or carpets.
- Never use or store flammable liquids around a space heater.
- Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or leave the area.
- For fuel-fired heaters, only use the fuel recommended by the manufacturer.
- Store heater fuel outside of your home in a container designed to hold flammable liquid.
- Do not attempt to use electric heaters in wet places, such as a bathroom, unless they are certified for that purpose.
- When plugging in electric heaters, avoid using an extension cord.

To ensure you keep warm and stay safe during the cold months, ensure your space heater is in proper working condition.

Holiday Office Closure

Presidents Day - Monday, February 15 To report outages, call 703-335-0500 or 1-888-335-0500, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Change for the better ... Operation Round Up®

Like ripples in water, our actions affect those around us. Even donating a few cents can impact your neighbors in positive ways.

Through Operation Round Up⁹, your power bill can be rounded up to the next dollar to fund crisis heating assistance for your less fortunate neighbors.

Make a positive impact today by signing up to use your spare change for the better.



Sign up online by visiting novec.com/oru

Call NOVEC's Customer Service Center at 703-335-0500.



For additional information or to submit suggestions for future articles, contact: NOVEC Public Relations, P.O. Box 2710, Manassas, Va 20108 or email: communications@novec.com.