

Mainlines

APRIL/MAY 2006

A newsletter for the customers of the Holyoke Gas & Electric Department

HG&E Again Reduces Natural Gas Rates

Effective with this billing cycle the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) portion of your natural gas bill has decreased from \$1.094/ccf to \$0.94/ccf. This adjustment results in an approximately 8% reduction in the average natural gas bill.

This is the second consecutive monthly decrease in the PGA. HG&E will continue to pursue purchasing strategies in an effort to reduce this rate even further over coming months.

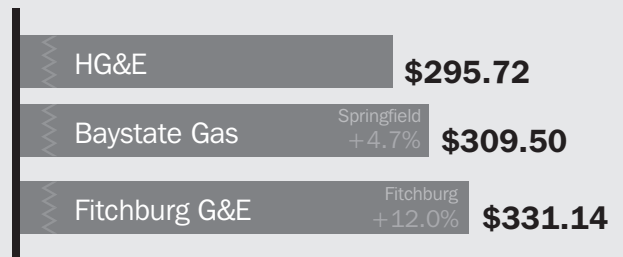
As you can see from the graphs to the right, HG&E continues to offer customers excellent service at competitive rates.

This decrease is a result of changes in the wholesale natural gas marketplace and how the market has responded to warmer than normal temperatures in the late winter period.

Watch this newsletter in future months for additional information.

Natural Gas Rate Comparison

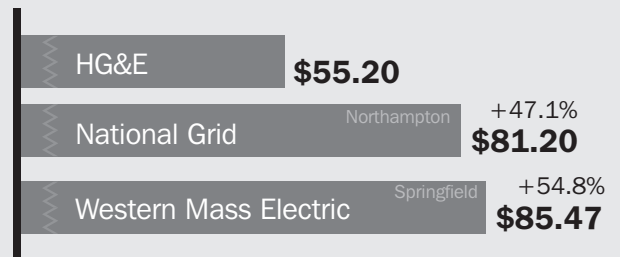
April 2006 gas bill for a 1500 sq. ft. home. (based on consumption of 162 ccf) Amounts shown include all discounts.



▶ **This latest gas rate reduction will save the average residential customer about \$25 on their April natural gas bill.**

Electric Rate Comparison

Residential customer consuming 500 kwh per month. Amounts shown include all discounts and use the fixed default generation supply price.



Turn your building into a beacon...

with affordable contract lighting from HG&E

Now you can protect and beautify your property with affordable contract lighting solutions from Holyoke Gas & Electric. For a small monthly fee, you will be utilizing the latest in energy efficient outdoor lighting.

In addition to their ability to deter criminals and vandals, HG&E's high pressure sodium lamps are also economical lighting alternatives for pools, basketball courts, and parking lots.

Installed and maintained by people you trust...

Holyoke Gas and Electric offers a variety of contract lighting packages that can protect your home or business. For as little as **\$12 a month**, you can have a high pressure sodium lamp, light fixture, and a 35 foot wood pole **wired and installed**. The rate even includes service!

Contact Peter Fern at 536-9349 to learn more about contract lighting from HG&E.

contract lights are also ideal for an outdoor basketball court or a long driveway!

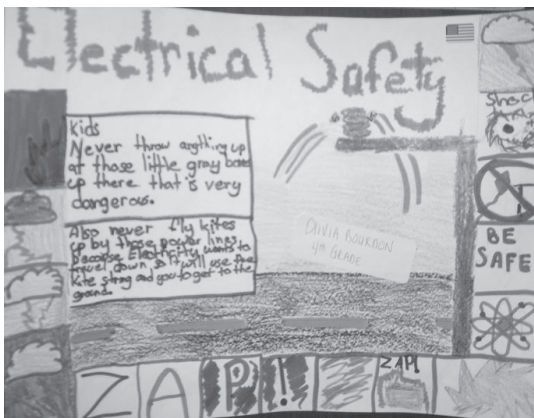


HG&E Sponsors School Safety Poster Contest

In conjunction with an educational safety program, HG&E sponsored a poster contest in March that drew entries from hundreds of 2nd and 4th grade children in the Holyoke Public and Parochial School systems. Winners received a \$10 Target gift card for their excellent work.

Several poster winners are shown in this newsletter, and all 37 winning entries are on display at our Suffolk Street offices or can be viewed on our website at:

www.hged.com/postercontest



Three of the Winning Posters (from left to right): Danissa Montanez, Kelly School; Olivia Bourdon, 4th Grade; Kenderalea Santiago, 4th Grade

An electrical surge can cost you plenty.

HG&E can help protect your home from power surges.

What happens in an instant but can be felt for many years to come? It's a dangerous electrical surge — most often from a lightning strike and it has the potential to destroy your family's valuable electrical equipment. Imagine your computer, TV, VCR, microwave, washer, dryer, and refrigerator all being suddenly destroyed. The cost in repair or replacement, plus programming or data, can be staggering.

Meterbase surge suppression device from just \$3.75/month.

Fortunately, the Holyoke Gas and Electric Department offers a simple solution to this potential problem— the Meter-Treater Service. Mounted into your electric meter socket, the Meter-Treater stops electrical surges from ever even entering your home and causing any damage. Ordering is easy. Just contact Jeff Brouillard at (413) 536-9358 or e-mail him at jbrouillard@hged.com.

How does the meter-based surge suppression service work?

Holyoke Gas & Electric will install the Meter-Treater at your home or business for no charge, and the low \$3.75 monthly charge will be added to your bill. The service is automatically renewed annually with the option of discontinuing the service after one year at no charge. Isn't \$3.75 such a small price to pay for so much peace of mind?

We can even protect your satellite dish and telephone... just call 536-9358 for details.

