

# Saving Energy, Money and the Environment

**Spring/Summer 2009**

## **Information on grants, discounts and how to make your home more energy efficient.**

### **1) Loft and cavity wall insulation**

For insulation schemes see leaflet **Grants for Insulation**

(Also see below for the **Handyperson Service** for help with the **clearing of lofts**)

**DIY loft insulation** - Installing loft insulation can be a DIY job too, visit your local DIY centre for advice.

### **2) Solid wall insulation**

The **Magic Wall Scheme** offers a discount (currently 20%) on Sempatap, a foam wall covering with a resilient glass fibre surface, which can be used to internally insulate properties without cavity walls.

Several other solid wall insulation products are available, call 0115 9819911 for a pack and sample.

### **3) Discounted boilers and heating controls**

The Magic Boiler Scheme offers discounts on top brand energy efficient ('A' rated) boilers brought from Plumbing Trade Supplies (PTS). Prices start at around £500 including VAT (not including installation). Choose from 8 manufacturers for natural gas and oil.

A discount on Danfoss heating controls is also available through the scheme.

Contact PTS direct on 0115 986 7333 or Customer Services on 0115 981 9911 for more information.

### **4) Warm Front Heating Rebate Scheme**

The Government is offering a £300 ( - £50 administration fee) rebate off the cost of installing a new central heating system for people aged 60 or over who own or privately rent their home and who are not in receipt of a qualifying Warm Front benefit.

This scheme can only be used by householders who either have no heating system or one which has broken or been condemned or has an intermittent fault. You can use your regular installer if they are registered for this scheme.

Contact 0800 316 2814

## 5) Radiator backing panels

Radiator backing panels improve the efficiency of your radiators and increase the air temperature by 1°C. 10 panels, which will back up to 5 radiators, cost £10, including instructions and double sided tape.

Panels are available for collection from Rushcliffe Borough Council, Customer Services, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5FE. Tel: 0115 981 9911.

## 6) Low energy bulbs

A wide variety of low energy bulbs are available from C Changes Ltd, Derby, tel 01283 736822, [www.c-changes.com](http://www.c-changes.com)

LED lighting is available from Energysave (eu) Ltd, Nottingham, tel 0115 9598563, [www.donewiththesun.co.uk](http://www.donewiththesun.co.uk)

Leaflets on lighting from each of these companies are available from Rushcliffe Customer Services, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford.

7) **Free shower smart unit** for your mains shower helping to save water, NOT SUITABLE FOR ELECTRIC SHOWER'S. Visit [www.shower.smart.co.uk](http://www.shower.smart.co.uk)

Do your bit for the Environment

## 1) SunGain – Solar water heating

SunGain is an initiative to install discounted solar hot water systems in public and private sector homes, managed by Nottingham Energy Partnership. They can offer advice on the sustainability of your property and arrange installation by approved installers.

Call 0115 9819911 for information pack or visit [www.nottenergy.com](http://www.nottenergy.com)

## 2) Green electricity – electricity generated from renewable sources

Most energy companies offer 'green tariffs' and prices vary depending on how much energy is produced from renewable sources. You will not necessarily pay more for green electricity.

For more information visit [www.greenelectricity.org](http://www.greenelectricity.org).

Another useful website is [www.growyourownenergy.co.uk](http://www.growyourownenergy.co.uk). This provides an independent opinion on whether making your own energy can actually save you money.

## 3) Compost Bins

By composting your kitchen and garden waste, you can reduce the amount of your household waste which goes into a landfill by one third, and help your garden. A range of compost bins are available from £22 + £5 delivery.

Call 0845 073 2001, and quote ref NOT03RDD1 or visit [www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost)

#### **4) Free water meters from Severn Trent**

Many households can reduce the amount of water they use and save on water bills if they have a water meter fitted. Severn Trent can fit a water meter for free, and if you don't save money within one year, you can revert to your original payment based on rateable value.

For more information, Call Severn Trent Water on 0845 709 0646 or visit [www.stwater.co.uk/watermeter](http://www.stwater.co.uk/watermeter)

#### **5) Renewable Energy – Micro generation**

Homeowners, communities or developers can apply for grants of varying amounts through the **Low Carbon Buildings Programme**. Grants are for all types of renewable micro-generation technologies (i.e. solar photovoltaic, wind turbines, small hydro, solar thermal hot water, ground/water/air source heat pump, bio-energy, renewable CHP, micro CHP, fuel cell).

For more information visit [www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk](http://www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk)

#### **6) Everybody's talking about climate change.**

Ever wondered about climate change and what you could do personally to help us avoid the predicted climate chaos? Everybody's Talking is a local public awareness campaign, supported by DEFRA.

For practical tips and to make a pledge visit our website [www.everybodys-talking.org](http://www.everybodys-talking.org)

#### **7) Calculate your carbon footprint at [www.direct.gov.uk/actonco2](http://www.direct.gov.uk/actonco2)**

Organisations who can offer help and advice

##### **1) Housing Grants from Rushcliffe Borough Council**

Grants are available to deal with repair and some energy efficiency improvements if you are on a low income.

Contact Rushcliffe Borough Council on 0115 9148432 to find out more.

##### **2) Greater Nottingham Healthy Housing Service (GNHHS)**

GNHHS specifically targets poorer households, including pregnant women, families with children under 16, disabled people and the over 60s. GNHHS gives government grants of up to £3,500 (if on gas) or £6,000 for oil, to people on qualifying benefits, who are homeowners or rent from a private landlord. This grant will pay for insulation and heating. Contact 0115 9472207 for more information.

##### **3) First Contact Signposting Scheme**

First Contact helps people aged 60 or over access services including affordable warmth, housing maintenance and repair, injury prevention, home security and safety, welfare benefits advice, local community transport schemes and social and recreational activities. Contact 08449 808080 for more information

#### **4) Handyperson Service**

A reliable and affordable service providing help with odd jobs around the home for people over 60 years old or a disabled person in receipt of a disability-related benefit. They can even empty lofts prior to insulation being installed. The service costs £10 for up to 4 hours work. Contact the Handyperson Service on 0115 9887160 to request an appointment

#### **5) Consumer Direct (formerly Energy Watch)**

If you are having problems with your energy supplier or you want impartial advice on switching suppliers, contact Consumer Direct.

For more information call 08454 04 05 06 or visit [www.consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk)

Help with reading meters or free gas safety checks are available through the **Priority Service Register through your energy supplier, whose details will be on your fuel bill.** To be eligible you must be of pensionable age, have a disability, long-term ill health or be hearing and/or visually-impaired.

#### **6) Changing Fuel Supplier**

If you looking to switch fuel companies contact USwitch – 0800 404 7908 ( [www.uswitch.com](http://www.uswitch.com)) or Which – 0800 533 031 ([www.switchwithwhich.co.uk](http://www.switchwithwhich.co.uk))

#### **7) Equigas/Equipower**

Equigas and Equipower are tariffs from not-for-profit company, EBICo which offers cheaper prices for all pre-payment meter customers and those using relatively small quantities of fuel who pay a quarterly bill. The same unit rate is offered to everyone regardless of how much you use or how you pay.

For more information call EBICo Ltd on 0845 4560170 or visit [www.ebico.co.uk](http://www.ebico.co.uk)

#### **8) Benefits available**

To find out if you are eligible for the new Pension Credit, the winter fuel payment, or the one-off 70+ payment, call the Pension Service free on 0800 991 234.

#### **9) NPower A1 fuel switching fund**

If your primary heating fuel is either electric or coal and you are changing to gas or oil alternative this is considered to be a fuel switch and you may be entitled to a grant towards this. Tel 0845 6000 337 or visit [www.a1-lcs.co.uk](http://www.a1-lcs.co.uk)

#### **10) Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre (East Midland region)**

The ESTAC provides free and impartial advice on all aspects of energy saving. Call 0800 512 012