



Warm Words

Spring 2021

SCOTT WILLIAMS
Incorporated

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

we're rushing toward an energy disaster

Dear Friends,

I'm sure you followed the debacle of power outages in Texas and elsewhere due to the deep freeze in February. We all empathized around here. It seems as if every few months, a storm knocks out **our power**, leaving tens of thousands of families without energy for days or weeks.



This issue has gained urgency because the commonwealth is rushing full steam ahead on a course to “electrifying everything” to reduce carbon emissions. We have been put on a disastrous path that could outlaw all appliances that use fossil fuels — including heating oil, natural gas and propane — and replace them with electric heat pumps. What legislators do not outlaw, they are likely to

tax heavily. That could cost you thousands of dollars.

In March, Governor Charlie Baker signed a new climate law that requires Massachusetts to reduce its carbon emissions significantly in the decades ahead — with the end goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. That's exactly the same plan the

heating oil industry outlined back in 2019! Our strategy is to do this with **Bioheat® fuel**, which **already** lowers carbon emissions while keeping us comfortable. That's all without regressive carbon taxes, additional equipment costs to consumers and without overloading the electric grid.

However well intended the “all-electric”

movement is, it relies on breakthroughs that have not materialized yet and an electric grid that is already unreliable. Consider what will happen when the grid is overwhelmed by huge new demands due to the conversions of cars, buildings, etc.

More than ever, Massachusetts needs a thoughtful policy that balances the need to address our climate without putting all of our energy eggs into one fragile, electric basket.

Please join with us in raising your voice about this important issue.

Warmly,

Ken Williams, President

how important is a cooling tune-up?

Annual air conditioning maintenance is very important! That's because regular tune-ups prevent a wide range of problems that can lead to expensive repairs.

Your tune-up also keeps your home-cooling equipment running efficiently and reliably for many years. This saves money on energy costs.

Our technician will give your cooling equipment a full assessment, checking every critical component and verifying that all controls and parts are working as intended to ensure safe operation.

Maintaining your air conditioning becomes easier and repairs much less expensive when you enroll in our **Silver Platter Air Conditioning Plan**, which covers the cost of your tune-up, includes **no-charge repairs** for all covered parts, and guarantees you priority service.

Call or contact us through our website to schedule a tune-up or to request enrollment in our Silver Platter Air Conditioning Plan. When summer gets here, you'll be glad you did!



Mass Save heating oil rebates may end

The Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) has recommended eliminating all Mass Save equipment rebates and the no-interest HEAT loan for homeowners that use heating oil and propane and natural gas. The EEAC wants to redirect those funds to subsidize the cost of converting residential oil-heating systems to electric heat pumps.

If you've been on the fence about upgrading your old heating system to a new high-efficiency model, don't put it off any longer.



Your Mass Save rebate opportunities may disappear as early as next year.

Besides, heating-oil customers have helped fund the Mass Save program through a monthly charge that appears on their electric bills. **It's time to get some of your money back!**

Please visit the Rebates & Financing page on our website and then call us to request a FREE estimate on a new heating oil system.

doing our part for a cleaner planet

Many initiatives to reduce our country's carbon footprint involve spending hundreds of billions of dollars on incentives and systemic changes. They also involve forcing you to convert to an electric heating system that you may not want.

But here at Scott Williams, we reduced our carbon footprint dramatically when we started delivering only **Bioheat® fuel**, and it didn't cost our customers a dollar extra. Read more about Bioheat fuel on pages 2 and 3.

in this issue:

- have you scheduled your A/C tune-up?
- energy disaster could be looming

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ask the expert

Q: What is the proper thermostat setting for my A/C system?

A: Set it to whatever temperature you find comfortable and leave it there. If the system is the correct size and you turn it off, it could take days to get room temperature back to where you want it. Remember that it's not "people conditioning," it is **air conditioning**. Even when you're away, the house is filled with air that needs to be cooled.

Chris Sands
Service Manager

Q: What can I do before summer?

A: Here are five tips:

1. Give your A/C system a **test run** early in the spring to see if it still operates properly. Call us if you find a problem.
2. Start off with a **clean air filter**. Most filters are accessible and simple to change.
3. Since a cooling system produces large amounts of water from condensation, you should **check the drainage system**. If the drain line gets clogged, water backs up and spills over the drain pan, and into your house.
4. Schedule your **annual A/C tune-up**. This service includes flushing the condensation line to prevent clogs and leaks.
5. **Don't block your air vents**, especially the return, with furniture or other items. You'll restrict air flow and your system will have to work harder to keep you cool.