

# Connections

## Save more energy this new year

### Is being more energy efficient one of your New Year's resolutions?

Our partner Energy Trust of Oregon offers cash incentives for smart thermostats, insulation, high-efficiency natural gas furnaces and fireplaces, and more.

For more details and DIY tips for saving energy, visit [EnergyTrust.org/save](https://EnergyTrust.org/save) or call (866) 368-7878.



## Warm up to savings

### When the weather outside is cold and frightful, your home can stay warm and delightful.

On a frosty day, a toasty home can be your retreat from the chill. To stay warm without burning through energy, follow these energy-saving heating tips:

#### Heating your home

- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees when you are home during the day and reduce it a few degrees at night or when you are away. Wear warm clothes like sweaters or get cozy and comfortable with a blanket.
- Don't block heating registers. Move furniture to allow heat to flow freely and make sure all return air openings are unobstructed.
- Restrict the use of your wood fireplace in extremely cold weather as it can rob your home of heat provided by your heating system. When the fireplace is not in use, be sure the damper is closed.

#### Heating your water

- Install aerating, low-flow faucets and showerheads.
- Repair any leaky faucets or drips. A small drip can be the equivalent of wasting a bathtub full of hot water each month.
- Check the thermostat on your water heater; a setting of 120 degrees provides comfortable hot water for most uses.
- Insulate all accessible hot water pipes, especially within 3 feet of the water heater. Insulation reduces heat loss and can keep water temperatures 2 degrees to 4 degrees hotter than uninsulated pipes do, allowing you to lower your water

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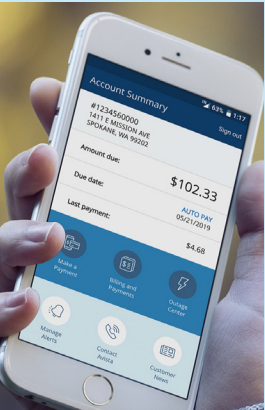


## Continued from front Warm up to savings

temperature setting. Plus, hot water will be delivered more quickly, which helps conserve water.

- Polyethylene or neoprene foam pipe sleeves are the most used insulation. Match the pipe sleeve's inside diameter to the pipe's outside diameter for a snug fit. Place the pipe sleeve so the seam will be face down on the pipe. Keep insulation at least 6 inches from the flue.

Learn more at [myavista.com/winterbill](http://myavista.com/winterbill).



## Tools to help you stay informed

**Have you tried the Avista mobile app?** You can access billing and payment information, contact us, view customer news—and still get up-to-date outage information.

Our app gives you the ability to view real-time account balances, due dates and balance details. You can make or schedule payments and add new credit cards or bank accounts. You can also receive in-app alerts for billing or outages that impact you.

Try it for yourself. Download the Avista Mobile App available in iTunes and Google Play stores. Already have the app? Simply update and you're good to go!

## Pilot light safety

**Do any of your natural gas appliances use pilot lights that stay on all the time?** Older models typically do, although newer, high-efficiency natural gas furnaces have done away with pilot lights altogether. Be sure you know which of your appliances have pilot lights. For those that do, here's what you need to know to stay safe:

- In most cases, when a pilot light goes out, it triggers an automatic shutoff valve. This feature should safely turn off your appliance.
- Gas range-top burners aren't equipped with a safety shutoff. If an appliance won't light — or if you smell the rotten egg odor of gas — get out of your house and call 911 and then Avista at (800) 227-9187 right away. We'll send a service representative to check things out.

Visit [myavista.com/resnsgsafety](http://myavista.com/resnsgsafety) for more information about natural gas safety.

## A new focus for a new year: Local Treasures with Pia

**The time around the new year is often a time dedicated to change.** We promise ourselves that we will be better and kinder, and that we will let bad habits go and good habits grow. We try to make a change for the better as a way to greet the new year.

Here at *Local Treasures with Pia*, we are also going to make some changes. Over the past two years we have traveled in search of cool destinations and even cooler people. We live in truly beautiful country here in the Northwest. If you want to revisit some of the locations, you can find them at [myavista.com/connect](http://myavista.com/connect).

Now, we are not going to stop looking for that beauty, but we are going to change gears a little and feature some of the people and organizations that make this part of the world a remarkable place to live.

Every year, the Avista Foundation gives grants to non-profit organizations big and small around the area, and in the new year we are going to catch up with some of these organizations and tell you about what they do and how they do it.

Volunteers do hard and necessary work every day in the Northwest. They feed the hungry, soothe the scared and care for the elderly. *Local Treasures with Pia* will bring you stories of great community organizations and the important work they do to keep the Northwest a beautiful place.

Wishing you a wonderful 2022 — and thank you for reading.



## Connect with us

Mailing Address: 1411 E. Mission, PO Box 3727, Spokane, WA 99220-3727

Toll-Free: (800) 227-9187 | Web Site: [myavista.com](http://myavista.com) | Email: [ask@myavista.com](mailto:ask@myavista.com)