

January 2020 | Oregon

## Celebrate comfort and savings with energy-efficient upgrades



**Start the new year with home upgrades to help you save energy and money**

**throughout the year.** Our partner Energy Trust of Oregon offers cash incentives for smart thermostats, front-load clothes washers, windows, insulation, and more. Find out more about these cash incentives and additional offers available at [energytrust.org/homes](http://energytrust.org/homes).



## Sensational cooking with natural gas

**Bobby Flay's Brussel Sprouts with Pancetta. Guy Fieri's chicken avocado eggrolls. Geoffrey Zakarian's Shrimp Fra Diavolo.** These are but a few of the restaurant recipes being shared online that many foodies are recreating at home. And they're cooking those dishes using natural gas because chefs across the nation still swear by it.

Natural gas cooktops are perfect for difficult, fast-paced recipes as they provide instant heat. (Electric elements must heat up first before the pan can get hot.) The gas flame shuts off immediately, too, so heat doesn't continue transferring to the dish like with an electric coil.

With natural gas, cooks and chefs can visually choose the size of flame for infinite heat settings. Dishes can go from a rolling boil to a simmer with a twist of a knob. Foods also cook evenly because the flame heats the entire bottom surface of the pan. Pan bottoms warp slightly over time and so only make contact on one side on flat electric burners.

Natural gas is also great for baking. The natural convection of a gas oven cooks foods from the outside in, sealing in more moisture.

For faster cooking and tastier recipes, natural gas is the best choice.



# When's the last time you replaced your furnace filter?

Regularly changing your furnace filter can greatly improve the efficiency and extend the life of your furnace. But it's a task most of us tend to forget.



We have a great solution to help you remember to change your furnace filter, even if you've got this down like clockwork and you just want the convenience of doorstep delivery.

Join our furnace filter program and we'll send you email reminders every three months. If desired, you can also choose to receive money-saving manufacturer's coupons, or even have new filters conveniently delivered to your door.

There are many great reasons to replace the air filter in your furnace, including creating better operation and extending the life of your furnace, as well as the benefits of reduced energy use and cleaner indoor air quality. You can even save unnecessary expenses that restricted air flow place on your furnace.

Never forget that filter again. Sign up today at [myavista.com/changemyfilter](http://myavista.com/changemyfilter).

## Your billing cycle

**Did you know one factor that can impact your energy bill is the number of days in your billing cycle?** The number can vary month-to-month, from 27 to 35 days, mainly because of the actual number of days in a month, when weekends and holidays fall, and if your meter was accessible. Having more days in the current bill than the previous month can contribute to a higher bill. Check the back of your Avista bill to find the number of days in your billing cycle.

Learn more about how winter impacts your energy bill at [myavista.com/winterbill](http://myavista.com/winterbill).



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

## Connect With Us

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