

Comfort Matters



from

BRIDEAU
SMARTER HEATING & COOLING



personally speaking

committed to your comfort: every hour, every day



Mark Brideau Sr.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for trusting our team to keep your home safe and comfortable

through another challenging year. As we look ahead in 2026, our promise stays unchanged: your comfort and safety will always come first. That's been our priority since our founding nearly 40 years ago, in 1987.

We're not just your heating oil and propane supplier. We're a full-service company built on decades of reliable, responsive care. That legacy guides every decision we make and ensures that when you call, we're ready to deliver.

Sure, you might find a "bargain" elsewhere, but saving a few cents per gallon on your heating fuel won't help much if something goes wrong in the dead of winter and your calls for help go unanswered.

In contrast, we take pride in our responsive service. That's why you can always expect a fast and courteous reply whenever a situation arises where you need help in a hurry. Our employees live and work in their local communities and know your neighborhood well.

Our responsiveness, care and dependability are among the most important differences between our competitors and us! So, whatever the new year brings, we'll be here, ready whenever you need us. That's a promise from all of us!

Warmly,

Mark Brideau Sr.

electric heat: no match for oil and propane

When the outdoor temperature drops

below freezing, heating oil and propane outperform electric heat pumps every time. Modern, high-efficiency heating oil and propane gas systems deliver powerful, consistent warmth — no matter how cold it gets outside.

In fact, upgrading your older system can cut your annual heating costs by 20% or more. Those are real savings, backed by proven technology.

While the "all-electric" movement aims for a greener future, it relies heavily on breakthroughs that haven't yet materialized and on an electric grid that's already under stress. Imagine a widespread power outage in the dead of winter!

Until our grid becomes cleaner and more dependable, both heating oil and propane remain the more reliable, secure way to stay warm. Millions of Americans entrust their comfort to oil heat and propane heat. For our part, we keep a steady supply of both heating fuels in storage to ensure you're never left out in the cold.



WIN a \$500 Visa gift card

Could an extra \$500 help kick-start a spring getaway or fund a home improvement project? Here's your chance! Read this newsletter and answer the questions on the enclosed reply card or go to BrideauEnergy.com/contest to enter online. Send in your completed entry by **3/2/2026**, and if your answers are correct, you'll be entered into our drawing for a **\$500 Visa gift card. Three lucky winners will be chosen!**

No purchase necessary. A purchase will not increase chance of winning. See reply card for details.



REVEALING THE SECRETS TO A WARMER, SAFER HOME

What's the Best Temperature Setting When It's Cold?

Every winter, families face the great thermostat debate: what's the lowest setting that keeps you comfortable **and** saves money? There's no one-size-fits-all answer, but the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) suggests a simple strategy:

- ⚙️ **68°F** while you're home and awake
- 🌙 **Around 60°F** while you're asleep or away

Just don't drop below 60°F—you could risk frozen pipes.

Why You Save

According to the DOE, lowering your home's indoor temperature slows heat loss. The longer your home stays cooler, the less energy it consumes, which means more savings for you.

In fact, reducing your thermostat by **7°–10°F** from its normal setting for eight hours a day can cut annual energy costs by up to **10%**.

TIP: Install a smart or programmable thermostat to automatically manage temperature settings. It's comfort and savings made easy.



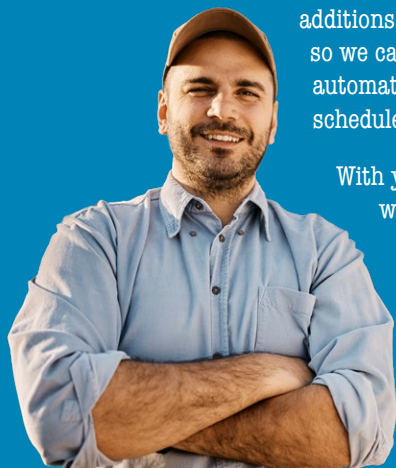
Team Up with Us for Safe Winter Deliveries

Winter weather can make fuel deliveries challenging, but with your help, we can keep things running smoothly and safely. Here's how you can assist our drivers during the busy, snowy months:

- ✓ **Clear the way:** Shovel a path to your fuel tank or oil fill pipe and remove any obstacles.
- ✓ **Mark underground tanks:** After heavy snow, clear around your tank and place a flag or marker so it's easy to find.
- ✓ **Keep driveways safe:** Plow and salt your driveway so our trucks can maneuver safely.
- ✓ Secure your pets so they don't interfere with our driver during the delivery process.
- ✓ If your heating needs have changed (new family members, home additions, etc.), let us know so we can adjust your automatic delivery schedule.

Other helpful tips

- ✓ Let us know if you've switched fuels or relocated your tank/fill pipe.
- ✓ Remember to unlock any gates that provide access to your property and make sure snow doesn't block us from opening them.



With your support, we can ensure timely, safe deliveries for you and your neighbors all winter long.

Quick & Safe Fixes to Get Your Heat Back

If you wake up one morning to a cold home, follow this quick checklist before calling for no-heat service:

- ✓ Check to see if you have **enough heating oil** in your storage tank.
- ✓ Ensure the system's power switches are in the **"on" position**.
- ✓ See if a **circuit breaker** has been tripped.
- ✓ Make sure your thermostat is set **above room temperature and to HEAT**. Check the thermostat batteries also.
- ✓ If you still can't find the problem, press your system's reset button **once only**. Pushing it more than once could flood your system with oil and cause a costly repair.

If your heat still isn't working, please reach out to us.



Finding the Right Oil Heat System

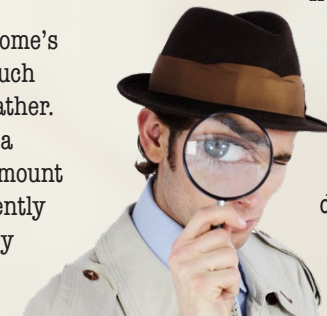
To recommend the ideal heating oil system for your home, we start by evaluating key factors—your insulation quality, home size and household occupancy.

From there, we calculate your home's **heat load**, which tells us how much warmth escapes during cold weather. With that knowledge, we design a system that delivers the right amount of heat at the right time—efficiently and affordably—so you stay cozy without breaking the bank.

Comfort + Savings, Done Right

If a contractor installs the wrong system or cuts corners during installation, you may face early equipment failure, poor efficiency and disappointing comfort.

When you choose us, you get experienced professionals who do the job correctly from the start, including fixing existing issues like leaky ductwork. The result? Lower energy costs, dependable warmth and a system that performs beautifully for years to come.



Keep Your Heat Running Safely

A warm home should also be a safe home. Here are some important safety reminders:

- 🔥 Keep the space around your heating equipment **clean and uncluttered**. Never store boxes, rags, paint, gasoline or any other flammable materials near your furnace.
- 🔥 Inspect the **air filter** in your furnace a few times this season and replace/clean it as needed for better efficiency and comfort.
- 🔥 Heating systems require **proper airflow** to operate safely. Be sure outside vents are free of snow, ice, leaves or other debris. If you spot a blockage, use a broom (not a shovel) to clear the area gently and avoid damage.
- 🔥 Carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are essential. **Check the batteries** and confirm they're working properly.
- 🔥 If your heating oil system needs attention, **don't try to fix it yourself**. Our certified technicians have the training, experience and specialized tools to diagnose and repair oil heat equipment safely and correctly.



ask the propane expert

Q: What can I do after there's been a big snowstorm?

A: First, clear a path to your propane tank at least one foot wide for your propane delivery driver. Be sure to also remove any snow from your propane tank, including from piping, tank regulators, vents, tubes, and valves. Keep your driveway clear of snow and ice, too, so we can make your fuel delivery.

Next, use a broom (not a shovel) to clear snow from all vents and flues around your house. This reduces the risk of toxic carbon monoxide gas backing up into your home.

If you believe that any of your propane equipment has been damaged, **don't use it** and contact us to request a safety inspection. And if you ever smell gas, get everyone out of the house **at once**. Then report the problem to the fire department and then call us.

Please visit our website to view our short propane safety videos.



Nate Retzlaff
propane installation manager

ready to go paperless?

With postage rates now up to 78 cents per stamp, it's the perfect time to ditch paper bills. Sign up for **paperless billing** and **AutoPay** today and make life easier!

You'll save on stamps, clear the paper clutter, and enjoy the convenience of automatic payments directly from your preferred bank account or credit card. Plus, your digital bills are always easier to find in your inbox.

Please contact us today to make the switch. It's easy!



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winter savings tips

There are numerous ways you can lower your annual home energy costs. Many are simple and bring you small savings, but they can quickly add up with little effort on your part. Here are a few ideas:

- ❄️ Winter still has plenty of sunny days, so put that sunlight to work. Keep your curtains and blinds **open while the sun's shining** to capture solar heat, especially on south-facing windows. **Close them at night** to keep the warmth in. Do the opposite in summer to reduce solar heat gain.
- ❄️ Use smart programmable thermostats and save an average of **8%** on your annual energy expenses.
- ❄️ Keep the **lint trap** inside your clothes dryer clean. A dirty one makes your dryer run longer than it should. This simple maintenance task can save you about **\$35 each year**.

- ❄️ Conserve energy on electronics by using a **power strip** as a central "turn off" point when you're finished using your computer and other equipment. This allows you to completely disconnect the power supply from the source, ending any standby energy consumption. The average household could shave **\$100-\$200 each year** off its electric bills by doing this.

