

Heating and Utilities Information

Most homes are heated with oil which is delivered to a buried underground tank or occasionally to an above ground tank. The most typical heating system is an oil fired hot water boiler that generates heat that is distributed in baseboards along the outside walls in all rooms and is controlled by a thermostat. There are some properties that have oil fired forced air heat.

If you have oil fired forced air heat you would be heating your hot water by electricity. In the case of a hot water boiler the domestic hot water is usually heated by the boiler and not by electric. Heating hot water from the boiler is usually less expensive than heating it with electricity.

If you are living on a public water and sewer system the average cost is about \$100 a month for those services depending on family size etc. If you are on a private well and septic system you might be paying for salt for the water softener or some other treatment. Sometimes, where it is poor water or the wells are very deep there is a buried water tank and you are buying your water. If you are buying your water it would probably not need any treatment and the cost is about \$.07 a gallon.

Both water and oil delivery can be set up on an automatic delivery system. The company monitors your usage and/or the temperature and keeps you from running out.

Electric would usually run about \$100 to \$200 depending on how the hot water is heated and if you are plugging in an automobile in the winter. With heating a house the cost depends on oil prices but you should figure about \$200 a month average to be safe depending on how well the house is insulated, how big it is, and if the garage is also being heated.

Most houses are rented with all utilities paid by the tenant.

Most apartments or condos are rented with the tenant paying rent plus electricity only. In those cases the landlord is paying the other items either on his own or through an association.

Remember locally it is much harder to rent a nice place if you have a pet. Because of our long winters animals are usually inside and landlords end up having heavy costs for damage and carpet replacement so it has gotten much more difficult to rent with pets.