

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Increasing Your Home's Coziness Factor

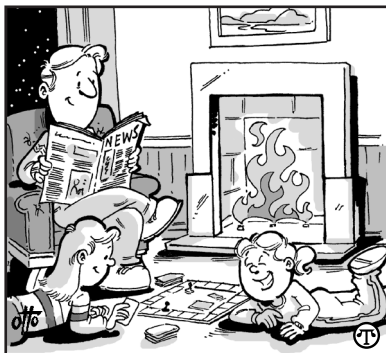
(NAPSA)—With the *Farmers' Almanac* calling for temperatures as much as 20 degrees below seasonal norms in some parts of the United States, homeowners need ways to stay warm while conserving extra heat.

To ensure that you are not left out in the cold, make home improvements to add coziness and warmth while conserving energy and money. Consider these suggestions from the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC):

- Natural gas or propane fireplaces combine convenience with coziness. Enjoy your fireplace without the hassle of chopping wood or cleaning ashes. Gas fireplaces create a cozy ambiance, and provide more heat than their traditional wood counterparts. Smaller free-standing units are also conveniently operated by remote control or push buttons and are portable and easy to transport from room to room.

- Go tankless for water heating. Tankless water heaters keep energy costs low because they heat water on demand rather than storing hot water in a tank. Quick to heat and economical, this innovative appliance can save homeowners 10-20 percent of their annual water heating costs. Unobtrusive and compact, about the size of a medicine cabinet, these heaters will free up valuable space within your home.

- Stay warm from toe to top with radiant heat products. Imag-



Keep your home cozy and warm this winter with a few simple steps.

ine stepping onto a warm floor on a chilly winter morning. Radiant heating allows for just that, heating evenly from the floor up, and aligning with the heating curve people enjoy: warmer at the feet, cooler at the head. Since the warmest air is kept at the floor, furnace temperatures can be kept lower to decrease operating costs.

- Think about upgrading your furnace. Older furnaces heat less efficiently. If your furnace is more than 20 years old, consider investing in a new one. Propane furnaces offer long-term savings, lasting 15-20 years (5-10 years longer than electric heat pumps). To help your heating system work more efficiently, change furnace filters monthly.

For more information about creating a warm and cozy home for your family this winter, visit www.usepropane.com.