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RG&E consumer news



Consider Energy-Efficiency In Choosing A Room Air Conditioner

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Efficient use of electricity should be an important consideration in the purchase of an air conditioner. Although air conditioners are used during only a few months a year locally, they are high users of electricity during each hour of operation. Two air conditioners with the same cooling capacity (BTU's) may differ substantially in their wattage and in the efficiency of their use of electricity.

The Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) has determined the energy efficiency ratios (EER) of the various brands and models of air conditioners, and has made the information available.

A unit's EER is computed by dividing its BTU rating by its wattage. This ratio tells you how much cooling capacity you will get per watt of energy input. The higher the EER, the more efficient the unit is in its use of electricity. You will need to know the wattage to calculate the operating costs.

For example: A 12,000 BTU unit which uses 1,900 watts has an EER of 6.3. Another 12,000 BTU unit which uses 1,350 watts has an EER of 8.8. The second unit is more efficient. It uses 29% less electricity and so costs less to operate.

It is more costly to build an energy-efficient air conditioner, so the energy-efficient one costs more to buy. Dealers should have information about EER and operation costs as well as the selling prices for the various units. Ask for these figures. With access to this information you will have the choice of spending less money to purchase an air conditioner which will cost more to operate, or spending more initially in order to conserve electricity and prevent an undesirable addition to your electric bill.

RG&E's "Watt Watchers Handbook" has instructions for calculating operating costs. You may obtain one by filling in and sending in the coupon below.

If you have questions, call RG&E's Appliance Department at 546-2700, Extension 2428.

Oak Ridge Manor-Not Just Another Mobile Home Park



Little more than a mile west of Sodus, off what is known as the "Old Ridge Road," a new mobile home park is well on its way to being one of the area's finest home centers. Large landscaped lots provide a variety of visually pleasing home sites near woods, orchards or surrounded by young trees. Each has a patio, and all utilities are underground including natural gas, electricity, public water, 8 Channel Master T.V. and storm sewers.

The neatness and continuity of the area is enhanced by blacktop roadways and street lamps.

Although the area could have accommodated 150 home sites, Ron Cody and Tom Heberly, the owners, decided to design green belts offering park-like areas around the 116 sites. The park is divided into an adult section and a family section with a play area. The park can be reached from the Old Ridge Road and is situated between Pratt and Centenary Roads, west of Sodus.

Clip and Save

Use of Frozen Fruits

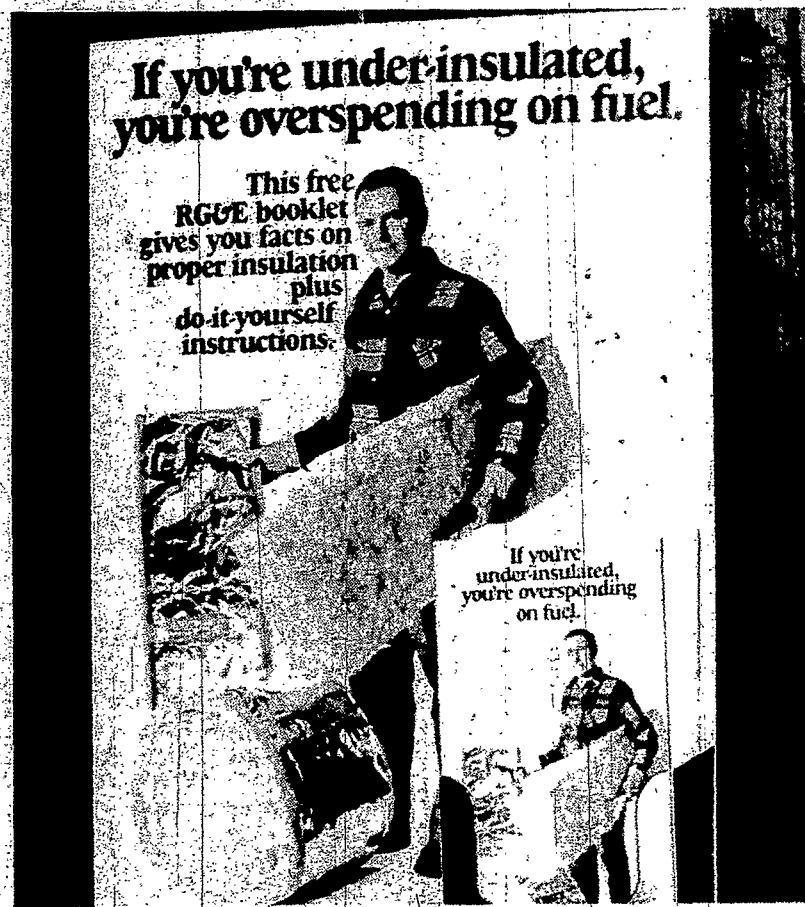
Do not remove fruit from carton until it is to be used. Fruits keep their fresh fruit flavor and color better when not exposed to the air.

Allow fruits to thaw by placing unopened package on a shelf in the refrigerator for about 6 hours, or defrost in the package at room temperature in about half this time.

Use fruits when they are just thawed. Fruits are more delicious when they are well chilled and just slightly frosty.

You can insulate your home yourself and save money.

An RG&E booklet tells you how.



Pick up your insulation booklet at these displays

Are you aware that 90% of the homes in this area don't have enough insulation? This means that the owners of these homes are spending more than they should for fuel.

If your home was built before 1940, chances are it isn't even insulated. And if it was built after 1940, it probably isn't insulated enough; maybe it has only two to three inches of insulation. RG&E and the New York State Public Service Commission recommend that you have a minimum of 6" of fiberglass or equivalent insulation in your ceiling. This much insulation can cut your heat loss considerably.

If you are under-insulated and like to do things yourself, we have just the tool to help you get started installing insulation in your home. It's a booklet called, "If you're under-insulated, you're overspending on fuel." This booklet shows you how to insulate, step-by-step.

Stop at one of our offices or mail in the coupon for your booklet. Do it right away and get started with your insulation project before the cold weather is here again. Around Rochester that happens sooner than we'd like to remember. Although there is plenty of insulation material, right now, a shortage is predicted in the fall; this means higher prices. That's another good reason to get started now.

Remember, if you are under-insulated, you're overspending on fuel.

Local Campsites Written Up In Our RG&E Camping Guide

More and more people become camping enthusiasts every year. And this year will probably prove no exception. To help campers choose a campsite, RG&E has prepared the booklet **Camping in RG&E Country**. It describes 20 campsites, all located within the area the RG&E serves.

This is an area which stretches from Fair Haven, to Hamlin, includes Canandaigua and goes all the way down to the Pennsylvania border. So, no matter what part of RG&E Country you live in, there is a campsite near you - one close enough so that you shouldn't have to worry about the gas supply situation when you drive to it.

To get your booklet, **Camping in RG&E Country**, fill out the coupon on this page. The camping season is just beginning, so send in the coupon today and you will be well equipped to plan your camping days.

Food Freezing Now at Consumer Center Booklet helps you avoid unnecessary service calls

June is the month when many items of locally grown produce become available - strawberries, rhubarb and asparagus, for instance. For economy and for the sheer luxury of lengthening the fresh produce season, more and more people are freezing a variety of food - from fresh produce to spring lamb. To help you get off to the right start in food freezing efforts, the Consumer Information Center on the Main Floor at RG&E is featuring a display of Food Freezing during the month of June.

Anytime this month browse through the display on Food Freezing at the Consumer Information Center. Various types of wrapping materials are on exhibit, as well as illustrations of different freezing methods, and literature on food freezing. You may visit the display any Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday through 9 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon.

National statistics show that about 40% of all appliance service calls are unnecessary. Such calls are embarrassing, expensive and take up precious time. In order to help you avoid such calls, RG&E has produced a booklet called "How to Avoid Unnecessary Service Calls."

The booklet, which gives you suggestions of things to check before you call the serviceman, was compiled by members of our Appliance Service Department and Home Service Department; the situations the booklet describes are, for the most part, situations the members of these departments have encountered when calling on customers.

The booklet also tells you what to do in the case of emergency service calls to RG&E.

For your copy of "How to Avoid Unnecessary Service Calls," send in the coupon on this page. Send in your coupon today; it may help you avoid an unnecessary service call next week.



Learn freezing techniques at the Consumer Information Center, Main Floor, 89 East Avenue.

FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS COUPON TO: CJ-17

Dept. 34 Rochester Gas and Electric
89 East Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. 14649

I would like more information on the following items:

Name

Address

Town

Zip Code