

Households heating bills expected to be lower this winter

U.S. households in all regions of the country can expect to see lower heating bills this winter....mainly because temperatures are predicted to be warmer than last winter and that means there will be less demand for heat, according to the forecast for winter heating expenditures from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The new forecast, which incorporates the latest weather outlook from forecasters at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, says that households using propane and heating oil will see the biggest savings....with propane expenditures down 27% this winter compared with last winter and heating oil bills down 15%.

Average natural gas bills will be 5% lower, while households that rely on electricity for space heating will see their costs decline 2%.

About half of U.S. households heat with natural gas, while almost 40 percent of households depend on electricity as their primary heating source. Heating oil and propane each heat about 5% of U.S. households.

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