



It's time to have your furnace inspected!

Experts say the best way to get the optimal performance and longevity out of your furnace, is to have an annual furnace inspection done. It is recommended that the



inspections are done in late summer or early fall, just before heating season begins.

Zia Natural Gas Company offers a rebate to customers for completing an annual furnace inspection. You choose how you would like the rebate; we'll send you a check or you can apply the rebate to your Zia Natural Gas account.

Filing for the rebate is easy. Simply go to www.zngc.com and find our **Energy Efficiency Program** under the "Save Energy & Money" tab and print the Rebate Application and the 16 Point Natural Gas Furnace Inspection Form. Then contact your favorite licensed plumber or HVAC specialist and schedule a furnace inspection. Your license plumber or HVAC specialist will fill out the 16-Point Inspection form and part of the Rebate Application form. Return the completed Rebate application, 16-Point Inspection form, and a copy of the inspection invoice to Zia Natural Gas Company and you're done!

When you visit our website, be sure to check out all of our other great rebates, too! Here are a few...



Since April 1, 2023, if you have installed a new Water Heater with a Uniform Energy Factor (UEF) of 0.67 or higher, you can file for a rebate between \$125 and \$275.

Since April 1, 2023, if you have installed a new Furnace with an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) of 92% or higher you can file for a rebate between \$200 and \$325.

Since April 1, 2023, if you added attic insulation to your home you can qualify for up to \$300.

Since April 1, 2023, if you built a New Home you can qualify for a rebate between \$600 and \$900.

We also offer free installation of water heating and space heating components for Commercial Buildings and for Low Income household customers.



Our offices will be closed for business on Monday, September 4, 2023, in observance of Labor Day.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS ON BUDGET BILLING

This last winter season was colder and longer than normal, causing customers to use a higher volume of natural gas than was expected. This higher usage combined with the high cost of gas has resulted in very high account balances for some

of our budget billing customers.

Please look at your account balance on your latest natural gas bill. If the next three months of paying your regular monthly budget amount will not bring your account balance down to zero, Zia urges you to

make higher payments or consider paying your account balance in full before October 21, 2023. Zia recalculates your budget payment amount at the end of October each year with your new budget amount going into effect on your November 1st bill. Any remaining account balance at the end of October will be factored into your budget amount for this next year – a high account balance will cause your monthly budget payment to increase significantly. Zia appreciates your patience and understanding as we work towards getting our computer system to more accurately predict future usage and set appropriate budget billing amounts.



Recipe
DIRECTIONS

20-Minute Creamy Italian Chicken Skillet

Ingredients:

1 Pound Chicken Cutlets	1 cup dry wine
¼ teaspoon salt, divided	1 (15 ounce) can no-salt-added diced tomatoes
¼ teaspoon ground pepper, divided	2 ounces cream cheese cut into cubes
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil, divided	1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
1 medium zucchini, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced	½ teaspoon garlic powder
½ cup chopped onion	¼ cup chopped fresh Basil

Directions

1. Sprinkle chicken with 1/8 teaspoon salt and pepper. Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the chicken and cook, turning once, until browned and an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part registers 165 degrees F. Transfer onto a plate
2. Add the remaining 1 tablespoon of olive oil, zucchini and onion to the pan. Cook, stirring, until starting to soften, about 2 minutes. Increase heat to medium-high and add wine. Cook, scraping up any browned bits, until the liquid has mostly evaporated, about 2 minutes. Add tomatoes, cream cheese, Italian seasoning, garlic powder and the remaining 1/8 teaspoon each of salt and pepper. Bring to a simmer and cook, stirring to melt cream cheese, for 5 minutes. Return the chicken to the pan and turn to coat with the sauce. Serve topped with basil.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program LIHEAP: Notice of Winter Shut-Off Protection

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2022. To avoid potential disconnection of services please contact the Human Services Department at 800-283-4465, or the appropriate tribal or pueblo entity, for eligibility information for the LIHEAP program. Your service will not be disconnected from November 15, 2022, through March 15, 2023, **if you meet the qualifications of LIHEAP and have no past due amounts or remain current on any installment agreements for amounts due as of November 15, 2022.** Members of New Mexico's tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at 888-427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance. For an application, please visit www.hsd.state.nm.us.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 1-3 – Las Cruces - **Hatch Chile Festival** Village of Hatch. 9 AM - 5 PM This year marks the 51st anniversary of the festival that put the Village of Hatch on the map, with a parade, a carnival, live music, games, roasting Chile, and a Chile eating contest.

September 2-4 – Ruidoso - **All American Labor Day Weekend at Ruidoso Downs Race Track** Enjoy the action LIVE for the running of the All-American Futurity, All American Oaks and the All-American Derby at Ruidoso Downs Race Track! Don't miss a minute of the action as 2-year-olds battle for a spot in the world's richest Quarter Horse Race!

September 7-17 – Las Cruces - **New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo** 10 AM – 9 PM. From livestock competitions and agricultural displays, to live entertainment, arts & crafts, and midway booths, the Fair is good ol' fashioned, family fun.

September 9 – Ruidoso - **Midtown Market** with Ruidoso parks and recreation, discover fresh, local foods and handmade crafts at the Midtown Market, where artists, bakers, wineries and more converge to provide locally made products in Midtown at the Country Club Lot, located at 100 Country Club Drive.

September 15 – Alamogordo - **White Sands Balloon and Music Festival** 4 – 11 PM Spend a cool summer evening listening to the best of our local performers, after spending the day at White Sands National Park watching the balloons lift off into the brilliant New Mexican skies.

September 16 – Hobbs - **3rd Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run** for special Olympic New Mexico. Family Festival. Fishing Derby. LEO Dunk Tank. LETR Merchandise. DJ. Cornhole Tournament. Raffles. Food Vendors. Entertainment. 5K Run. Green Meadows Park 4400 N Lovington Hwy Hobbs, NM 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

September 16 – Springer - **Springer Fall Festival** Food and fun for the whole family. For details: contact Luella Smith at 575-707-1354 or Sherry Goodyear at springerchamberofcommerce@hotmail.com.

September 16-17 – Mesilla - **Diez y Seis de September** Mesilla Plaza. 10 AM - 4 PM Celebrate Mexico's independence from Spain at one of the southwest's premiere family-friendly events, featuring a parade to kick things off, followed by music, dance, food, drink, and even a greased pole.

September 19 – Ruidoso - **Charity Golf Tournament** at Rainmakers Resort and Club in Alto, benefitting the Alto Coalition for Environmental Preservation. Your chance to play this championship Robert Trent Jones designed course that's sure to take your breath away. Four-person scramble only \$125 per player. 9:00 shotgun start. Sign up at www.altocep.org or call 575.336.4489.

September 21-24 – Ruidoso - **54th Annual Golden Aspen Motorcycle Rally** at Inn of the Mountain Gods, get ready to Ride! The Golden Aspen Motorcycle Rally is better than ever with live music, food and something for every motorcycle enthusiast. For 54 years, the Village of Ruidoso in the southern mountains of New Mexico has hosted riders and enthusiasts for the Golden Aspen and Aspen Cash motorcycle rallies.

September 22-23 – Ruidoso - **New Mexico 4x4 Rally** Ruidoso Convention Center.

September 22-23 – Hobbs - **United Way Chili Cook Off & Car Show Arts & Crafts Fair.** Food Vendors. \$20 to enter into a category. The United Way Chili fest Cook Off helps fund over 20 different nonprofits in Lea County. For more information call Marcus Sparenberg 575-964-3040.

September 23-25 – Ruidoso - **Kite Festival** and food truck round up. White Mountain Sports Complex.

October 7 – Hobbs - **Fashion for a Cause** benefiting Sheri's house of hope. VIP Tables \$1500 – Seats 8/Two Bottles of Wine-Ad in our event program, business promoted by our emcee and on event advertising materials. Individual Tickets – \$100 – Entry to the fashion show & silent auction. Contact Lorena Chavarria 575-263-7321 or director@sherishoh.org. 6:30 - 8:30 PM Hobbs Country Club 5001 W Carlsbad Hwy Hobbs, NM

Reminder: We use this section for our local communities. The messages must be non-partisan and non-religious. Non-Profit organization messages will be given preference. Please send the information to osaucedo@zngc.com before the 10th of the month to make the following month edition. Thank you.

You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." – Martin Luther King, Jr.



New Mexico's Natural Choice...Zia Natural Gas Company
Proudly celebrating over 30 years of service
and looking forward to many more!

Zia Natural Gas Company area offices:

Lincoln County 100 Short Drive Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346 575-378-4277 1-800-520-4277 (575) 378-4138 Fax Mailing Address PO Box 888 Ruidoso Downs, NM 88346	Hobbs/Jal 510 E. Bender Hobbs, NM 88240 575-392-4277 1-800-470-9900 (575) 392-8504 Fax Mailing Address PO Box 2220 Hobbs, NM 88241	Dona Ana County 3700 W. Picacho Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88007 575-526-4427 1-800-453-5546 (575) 523-4945 Fax Mailing Address 3700 W. Picacho Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88007	Maxwell-Cimarron-Springer 316 Maxwell Ave. Maxwell, NM 87728 575-375-2277 1-800-520-4277 (575) 375-2753 Fax Mailing Address PO Box 357 Maxwell, NM 87728
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Know what's below.
Call before you dig.