



SEPTEMBER 2026

Natural Gas News

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program LIHEAP:

Notice of Winter Shut-Off Protection

Protection from winter shut-off begins November 15, 2026. 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, 2026 through March 15, 2027, 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, 2026.

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.



Let's Get Your Furnace Ready for Cooler Weather

Colder weather is approaching fast, and right now is the perfect time to prepare your home for the heating season!

Zia Natural Gas encourages Customers to schedule a **furnace tune-up** before temperatures drop. Regular maintenance can help your furnace operate safely and efficiently while keeping your home comfortable throughout the winter.

You may also save while you prepare!

Zia Natural Gas offers a **\$50 Energy Efficiency rebate for qualifying furnace tune-ups**, helping customers improve their energy efficiency while reducing heating costs.

Find our Energy Efficiency Rebate Application following the steps below or simply scan the QR code.

1. Access our website www.zngc.com
2. Hover over the top tab that says **Save Energy & Money**
3. A drop down will appear, then click on **Energy Efficiency Programs**
4. You will then select the **16-Point Natural Gas Furnace Inspection Form**



For your convenience, Scan the QR code and navigate to the 16- Point Natural Gas Furnace Inspection Form.

Don't wait until the first cold night—schedule your Furnace tune-up today and make sure your home is ready for the season ahead.

Three Benefits of Regular Furnace Tune-Ups



1. Improved Energy Efficiency
Regular maintenance helps ensure your furnace operates at peak efficiency, helping reduce energy consumption.



2. Extended Lifespan
Tune-ups help prevent wear and tear, prolonging the life of your furnace.



3. Enhanced Safety
Routine inspections can identify potential safety hazards, helping ensure your system operates safely.

SCAN TO PAY



EASY ACCESS PROVIDED TO YOU.

SCAN THE PROVIDED QR CODE TO PAY YOUR ZIA GAS UTILITY BILL IN MINUTES!

Fun Facts About Natural Gas!

In America, Colonel Edwin Drake drilled the first successful natural gas and oil wells in 1859. His well was only 69 ft deep, while modern wells can go as deep as 30,000 ft, reaching huge reserves underground.

RECIPE: Stuffed Butternut Squash

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp olive oil, salt and pepper
- 2 medium butternut squash halved & seeded
- 1 lb. spicy breakfast sausage
- 4 minced garlic cloves, 1 small red onion diced, 2 tbsp. chopped sage
- 6oz cremini mushrooms chopped, 1 cup kale, 1 cup of cooked brown rice
- 1 cup grated gruyere, ¼ cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

Directions:

1. Roast seasoned squash cut-side down at 400°F for 40–45 minutes, until tender. Season with salt and pepper.
2. Brown sausage. Sauté garlic, onion, mushrooms, and sage. Add kale and rice. Mix with sausage and Gruyère.
3. Scoop a trench in the squash and fill it with sausage mixture. Bake 10–12 minutes until hot and cheese melts. Top with parmesan and parsley and serve.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Ruidoso

September 18-19th The 2nd Annual Ruidoso Runfest. Friday September 18th is the Pizza Hut 5K & Kids 1K Saturday September 19th is the Marathon, Half Marathon & Road 47k/50k at Wingfield Park For more info visit <https://raceroster.com/events/2026/94941/ruidoso-runfest>.

October 3rd Aspen Fest at Wingfield Park. Parade starts at 10am Wingfield Park craft beer and wine festival 11am-6pm For more info visit <https://visitruidoso.com/listing/wingfield-park/>.

Carrizozo

September 5th The 2nd Annual Carrizozo Community Festival. Parade will start at 11am on 12th St, the music festival will begin at the parade's conclusion at McDonald Park, right off US Highway 54.

Hobbs

September 12th Music & Murals 1pm-6pm. Free Event in downtown Hobbs near Broadway and Turner.

September 19th American Tune: Simon, Croce and Taylor the 70s singer-songwriter tribute preformed by Tom Glynn. At Watson Hall on New Mexico Junior College Campus 7pm-9pm \$25 per ticket. For more info visit <https://lifeinlea.com/event/american-tune-simon-croce-and-taylor/>.

October 23rd Fear & Phobias 16th Annual Haunted House 7:30pm-9:30pm Hobbs Community Playhouse \$10 per person.

Reminder: All information was gathered online through local city hall /chamber of commerce websites and is subject to change. Please contact the appropriate office to confirm details. This section is for local, non-partisan, non-religious, non-profit messages. Preference given to nonprofits. Submit by the 10th to arascon@zngc.com for inclusion in next month's edition. Thank you!

Natural Gas News is an official publication of Zia Natural Gas Company published monthly by Alyssa Rascon, Business Development Manager arascon@zngc.com

Las Cruces

September 5th 9am-5pm and the 6th 10am-4pm The Franciscan Festival of the Fine Arts at the Holy Cross Retreat Center in Mesilla Park. Browse paintings, pottery, photography, and jewelry directly from the creators. The event also hosts a massive silent auction, raffles, and features local favorites like Little Toad Creek in the beer garden.

September 5th-6th Hatch Chile Festival at the Hatch High School grounds 9am-6pm. The festival is free to attend, but carnival rides and parking in and around the Hatch High School generally requires a fee. Proceeds help with festival expenses.

Maxwell/ Cimarron

September 5th 10am-12am and the 6th 12pm-5pm Gate City Music Festival in downtown Raton. Free live music noon to midnight. Enjoy street fair with vendors, sidewalk sales, and a kid's zone. For more info call (575)445-2052.

Every Saturday for the month of September 10am-1pm Cimarron Farmers Market at the Cimarron Village Park. Baked goods, local produce, plants and flowers. Vendors needed please contact 575-376-2417 or cimarronnm@gmail.com.

Lincoln County

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ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY