

EFFICIENCY MATTERS

in Massachusetts

MEMA
MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY MARKETERS ASSOCIATION

BIOHEAT® FUEL: COMFORTABLE, RENEWABLE AND EFFICIENT

There are so many benefits to living in a home that relies on Bioheat fuel for warmth. Here are the key ones you'll want to know:

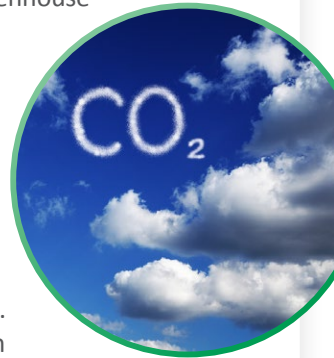
- ✓ **COMFORT.** When compared with traditional heating oil, rest assured that Bioheat fuel will still deliver plenty of heat energy – measured in British Thermal Units (Btu) – to easily keep your home warm and comfortable. The flame inside the heating oil system burns hotter than other types of systems. As a result, homeowners who use Bioheat fuel enjoy warm homes with evenly distributed heat – a big comfort during all those cold days and nights of winter.
- ✓ **A RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCE.** Bioheat fuel blends must meet rigorous standards set by the American Society of Testing & Materials. Bioheat fuel is one of the cleanest burning heating sources for your home. It reduces greenhouse gas emissions significantly and no changes to your existing heating oil system are necessary if you want to use Bioheat fuel. That's why Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker issued his Leading by Example Executive Order last spring mandating the use of at least a 10% blend of biofuel in all state buildings using heating oil.
- ✓ **EFFICIENT.** Modern, efficient heating oil systems, combined with highly refined Bioheat fuel, help homeowners achieve the same amount of warmth while using much less fuel. The latest oil heating systems are small, smart, and super-efficient and can save you, on average, about 20% or more on your annual heating costs.



ON TRACK WITH EMISSIONS GOALS

The heating oil industry in Massachusetts is committed to helping to ease the impact of climate change with Bioheat fuel – a blend of ultra-low sulfur heating oil and biofuels made from renewable sources. Bioheat fuel is a pathway to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions related to greenhouse gases. The goal by 2030 is to transition to a B50 blend – 50% biofuel and 50% heating oil – that's called **B50 Bioheat SuperPlus™**. This blend reduces greenhouse gas emissions in your home by **40%**.

This higher blend of Bioheat fuel will also continue to improve system efficiency and will push us closer to realizing a **carbon-neutral future by 2050**. The B50 blend is not an end goal, but rather a step on the journey to a completely renewable liquid heating fuel. In the coming years, we will be within reach of a fully renewable product – **B100 Bioheat fuel**.



To learn more, visit DiscoverHeatingOilMass.com.

SUPER SERVICE – IN GOOD TIMES AND BAD

Like everyone else, Massachusetts heating oil companies have faced incredible challenges over the past 18+ months, but they have come through time after time for their customers and staff while maintaining all health and safety protocols.

Service technicians have been on call to fix any system-related issues or problems, and often are available 24 hours a day if there is a no-heat emergency. Fuel delivery drivers have made sure



customers get all the fuel they need during the heating season. And customer service representatives remain ready to answer questions, solve problems, recommend solutions, and make their customers' lives just a little bit easier.

Superior customer service is one of the many reasons that more than **700,000 Massachusetts homeowners** choose to heat their home with Bioheat fuel.

TIPS TO SAVE BOTH MONEY AND ENERGY

Now is a great time to make home improvements, especially in terms of improving energy efficiency. Besides partnering with your liquid heating fuel company to ensure your oil furnace or oil boiler operates properly and safely, do your own self-audit to find areas where you can make changes for the better. Here are some suggestions.



Determine if your **attic is well insulated** and upgrade if necessary. This alone can save you hundreds of dollars each year on heating and air conditioning costs.



Winterize windows with weatherstripping (for moveable joints) and caulk (for nonmoving parts). Also, use a window kit to insulate the inside of your windows to keep cold air out and warm air in.



Use ceiling fans. Ceiling fans will help you feel cooler in the summer even with your thermostat set at a higher temperature. You can also use them during the winter to push down warm air trapped near the ceiling, which means you can use less heating oil and still stay warm.



Use a **smart programmable thermostat**. If you don't have a programmable thermostat, getting one is a smart move. When used correctly, it will pay for itself in just a short time. If you choose a Wi-Fi thermostat, you can control your home's temperature from your smartphone.

In the winter, the optimal setting is 68°F when you're at home. Dial it down toward the 60°F range when you're asleep or out of the house. The temperatures you ultimately choose will depend on factors like the outdoor temperature and your family's comfort preferences. Remember, these are just guidelines.

WHY ARE TODAY'S OIL TANKS BETTER?

Your heating oil tank represents an important part of the energy system in your home and affects your family's comfort and peace of mind. If you're thinking about upgrading your storage tank, here are a few important facts about the heating oil tanks that are being installed today.

The new generation of aboveground tanks feature:

- ✓ Sleek designs that permit installation in **small or unusually shaped spaces**
- ✓ **Double-wall construction** that includes an outer tank of corrosion-resistant galvanized steel
- ✓ A **leak-detection** system
- ✓ Long-term **warranties**

Your heating oil company can help you understand your options when it comes to upgrading. Let them know what questions you have.



STAY IN THE KNOW – HERE'S WHERE TO GO

The Internet is enormous, so it pays to know where to turn to fast for information that you can rely on, especially when it comes to the latest news about Bioheat fuel. With that in mind, please bookmark these sites for easy access:

- MyBioheat.com
- DiscoverHeatingOilMass.com
- Facebook.com/OilheatMassachusetts

On these websites, you'll find helpful tips and resources, practical ideas for improving energy efficiency, and even more helpful information about Bioheat fuel.



**BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR LOCAL HEATING OIL COMPANY,
THE MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY MARKETERS ASSOCIATION AND
THE NATIONAL OILHEAT RESEARCH ALLIANCE**

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