

PARISH OUTREACH

If you need assistance with your heating oil this winter, here are resources that you may find helpful.

HEAP

Home Energy Assistance Program. The 2023-2024 Regular HEAP benefit opened on November 1, 2023. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year and could also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits if you are in danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off. Eligibility and benefits are based on income, household size, the primary heating source, and the presence of a household member who is under age 6, age 60 or older, or permanently disabled. Please see <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap> for more details.

Emergency HEAP benefits and eligibility are based on income, available resources, and the type of emergency. The 2023-2024 Emergency benefit opened on January 2, 2024. For more information and to apply to HEAP, please visit the following website: <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap>.

Project Warmth

Project Warmth is Long Island's only non-governmental, island-wide emergency fuel fund. This program provides a one-time grant for fuel and/or fuel-related electricity. Payments are made directly to oil and utility companies on behalf of eligible residents facing heating emergencies. To receive funds from Project Warmth, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a resident of Nassau or Suffolk Counties, or the Rockaways
- Show financial need, provide an acceptable explanation for any unpaid energy bills
- Applicants must have first exhausted or been denied emergency HEAP assistance and have not topped off your oil tank in any previous year

Get heat assistance through Project Warmth for yourself or a loved one. Dial 211 or call the United Way at 888-774-7633. Project Warmth is available until funds are exhausted and is open now.