



Tenant Rights: Home Heat

Did you know?

Living without enough heat in your home can be dangerous for your family. Landlords must provide heat and hot water. It is the law.

Action Plan

- ☐ Know your rights. Landlords must provide heat and make timely repairs to fix heating problems.
- ☐ In New York State, indoor temperatures must be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit between September 15th (or October 1st for some counties) and May 31st.
- ☐ Some counties have different nighttime temperature requirements. Check with your local housing agency.
- ☐ If you don't have enough heat:
 - ☐ Talk to your landlord or building staff.
 - ☐ Consider taking action with neighbors.
 - ☐ Contact your local housing department and/or tenant advocacy group for help.
- ☐ Never use an oven or cook stove to heat your home. If you are using space heaters for extra heat, it is important to use them safely.
- ☐ Dress infants in a wearable "sleep sack" blanket or footed pajamas to stay warm. Avoid using loose blankets as they are a suffocation risk.
- ☐ Make sure your carbon monoxide and smoke alarms are working. They can save your life.
- ☐ Be aware that although climate change is making the world warmer, extreme cold events are also more likely now.

more →



Resources

For NYS Heat Season Requirements visit:

- hcr.ny.gov and search “Heat and Hot Water”
- odes.iccsafe.org and search “New York State Property Maintenance Code”

To learn more about using space heaters safely, visit nyscheck.org/rx and click on “Space Heater Safety.”

For more resources on staying safe and warm in cold weather, visit nyscheck.org/rx and click on “Cold Weather Safety.”

For more information visit: nyscheck.org/rxs