

# the pilot

Spring 2010

A Newsletter for Customers of **Clearwater Gas System**

## Save More with Florida's ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate



On May 19, 2009 Governor Charlie Crist signed House Bill 167, enacting the ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate Program which offers 20% off the purchase price of specified energy efficient appliances. This bill marks a continuation of the commitment to increase energy efficiency and stimulate the economy. The goals of the rebate program are to help Floridians buy appliances at discount rates, lower utility costs, and benefit Florida businesses by encouraging sales of energy-efficient appliances. The six residential appliances that qualify for Florida's 20% ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebate Program are:

- Tankless gas water heaters
- Refrigerators
- Freezers
- Washing Machines
- Dishwashers
- Room Air Conditioners

Florida's Energy Star Appliance program will run from April 16 through April 25, 2010. To qualify for the ENERGY STAR rebate the appliance must be purchased from April 16 through April 25, 2010.

For additional details visit [www.myfloridaclimate.com](http://www.myfloridaclimate.com) or call Clearwater Gas System at (727) 298-3540 to get more information on tankless gas water heaters.

In addition to Florida's ENERGY STAR rebate, Clearwater Gas System also offers residential customer rebates. Now is the ideal time to lower your energy bill with Clearwater Gas System's upgraded Energy Conservation allowances:

Natural Gas Appliance	Replace Electric with Gas	Replace Gas with Gas
Tank Water Heating *	\$525	\$350
Tankless Water Heating *	\$525	\$450
Gas Heating	\$625	N/A
Gas Range or Dryer	\$100	N/A

*\*Water heater must be purchased from Clearwater Gas System*

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## Newspaper in Education Partners with Clearwater Gas System



The St. Petersburg Times Newspaper in Education (NIE) program and Clearwater Gas System have partnered to promote natural gas energy and the use of newspapers as an educational resource in the classroom. The NIE special curriculum, titled "Natural Gas Technology, a Bridge to the Future," focuses on the benefits and the reliability of natural gas energy. The four color natural gas newspaper also features fun and interactive brain teasers such as crossword puzzles and experimental case studies that teach students about the role that natural gas plays in our environment.

Along with training and a variety of curriculum resources, the Times NIE transforms the classroom into a living textbook featuring current, real-world information. Teachers that use the newspaper and NIE curriculum on a regular basis agree that NIE helps students develop daily reading habits that will be carried through life. The newspaper partnership provides a vital link to the real world for students who too often do not realize the value of an academic program.

For your free newspaper copy, please send an email request to Lisa Brown at [lisa.brown@clearwatergas.com](mailto:lisa.brown@clearwatergas.com).



### Prevent Damage to Buried Utility Lines

The law requiring Florida homeowners and excavators to call 811 before digging is the Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act, Chapter 556, Florida Statutes. A recent damage prevention study revealed that homeowners unintentionally damage underground utilities approximately once per minute each year, risking serious injuries and costly service disruptions, fines and repair costs.

Florida law requires professional contractors and homeowners to call 811 (a free call) at least two business days before installing a fence, planting a tree or digging for any reason. Failure to comply may result in costly penalties. For additional information, visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) or dial 811. Thanks for your help!

### Great Deals from Clearwater Gas System!

Commercial Customers

**SAVE UP TO \$100**

on a commercial gas water heater, boiler or pool/spa heater from Clearwater Gas System with this coupon!

**Expires 7/30/10**

Certain Restrictions Apply. Coupons are valid only at the Clearwater Gas Sales Center and must be presented at time of purchase.

Residential Customers

**SAVE UP TO \$100**

on a gas grill or pool/spa heater from Clearwater Gas System with this coupon!

**Expires 7/30/10**

Certain Restrictions Apply. Grills priced at \$800 and higher. Coupons are valid only at the Clearwater Gas Sales Center and must be presented at time of purchase.

# Natural Gas Restaurant Spotlight

## Frank Chivas Gets Linked In

It's true LinkedIn might be one of the world's largest professional business networks but Frank Chivas is linked in to the Clearwater area as a well-known restaurant entrepreneur serving thousands of patrons throughout the Tampa Bay area. Voted Tourism Person of the Year in 2009, the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce recognized Frank for promoting tourism through his destination restaurants: Marlin Darlin', Salt Rock Grill, Rumba, and Island Way Grill.

Frank's local establishments all have one main ingredient in common: all are cooking with nature's most basic element – natural gas. Gas equipment such as tankless water heaters, patio heaters and grills are part of Frank's commercial cooking fundamentals, mainly because gas is a clean and flexible energy source. This flexibility allows chefs to cook meals in a variety of different ways. When asked what he liked most about natural gas, Frank replied, "I love that natural gas is clean."

Studies show that the carbon footprint for a business using natural gas is 50% smaller than a business using electricity for heating and water heating. Not only is natural gas easy on the environment, it also provides controlled cooking, depending upon the equipment you use. The higher the heat and the hotter you cook, the more food you can prepare in a shorter time.

The Marlin Darlin', Rumba, Island Way Grill, and Salt Rock Grill all give patrons a casually sophisticated dining experience offering mostly seafood, island style. Even during a struggling economy, Frank offers patrons an extra bang for their buck. Weekly specials include early bird deals between 4 and 5:30 p.m. The new 2010 specials include a three course meal for two for \$20.10.

With four dining destinations, Frank is no stranger to the food industry; he's been in the restaurant business for several years and may open a fifth restaurant in the near future.

*If you go - Marlin Darlin' Grill, 2819 West Bay Drive, Belleair Bluffs; Salt Rock Grill, 19325 Gulf Boulevard, Indian Shores; Island Way Grill, 20 Island Way, Clearwater Beach; Rumba Island Bar & Grill, 1800 Gulf-to-Bay, Clearwater.*



Restaurants, cafeterias, school and hospital kitchens rely on natural gas for versatility and efficiency in cooking, grilling, baking and frying foods. Natural gas appliances are available offering a variety of features to serve the needs of the small independent restaurant owner as well as a nationwide provider of quick serve foods. Fifty-nine of Florida's sixty-seven counties have natural gas service available for industrial, commercial and residential use.

### Offices Will be Closed:

Monday, May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Memorial Day
Monday, July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Independence Day Observed
Monday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>	Labor Day
Thursday, Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Veterans' Day
Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25 <sup>th</sup> – Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Thanksgiving Holiday Observed
Friday, Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Day Observed

### Contact Us:

(727) 298-3540	Gas Sales Center
(727) 562-4900	Gas Administration
(727) 562-4900 x7419	Service and Repair
(727) 562-4900 x7444	Warehouse
(727) 562-4600	Customer Service
(727) 462-6633	24-Hour Emergency Line

For email inquiries, please visit [www.clearwatergas.com](http://www.clearwatergas.com)

# Gas Industry News Update

News, trends and current events affecting the gas industry nationwide

## NEW TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS ALLOW PROPANE TO BE STORED UNDERWATER

Known as the Gas-Marine Tank System, or GMT, SeaGen Systems Ltd. unveiled their newest underwater propane storage project at the International Water Technologies and Environmental Control Exhibition (WATEC) last November. Compared to traditional propane storage facilities, the underwater storage system addresses the problem of finding safe and economic propane storage solutions. The underwater propane tank and its contents would be secure from terrorist attacks and shielded from natural disasters.

Source: LP Gas Magazine

## WOOD INTO GAS? DES PLAINES LAB ROLLS UP SLEEVES

The Gas Technology Institute is working on turning wood into gasoline. According to a statement from partner company Haldor Topsoe, the process could eventually enable all biomass to be turned into transportation fuel – including household waste. The project will be funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Energy through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The money will go toward preliminary engineering design for a process to produce green gasoline and diesel from woody biomass, agricultural residues and algae.

Source: Journal Online

## NEW GAS LINES POSSIBLE

Federal regulators are recommending approval of two natural gas pipelines that could sharply increase fuel shipments from the Rockies to population centers in the Midwest and on the West Coast. The Rockies hold an estimated 375 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, or almost as much as the Gulf of Mexico. The fuel is being promoted as a less-polluting alternative to coal because it emits less greenhouse gas. Combined, the two latest proposals would move almost 2 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day.

Source: Huffington Post

For additional gas energy information, visit [www.clearwatergas.com](http://www.clearwatergas.com) or contact Clearwater Gas Sales at (727) 298-3540

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