Atmos Energy Recommends Customers Add ‘Routine Household Safety’ to Their Spring Checklist

Wichita County, Texas – March 7, 2024 – The increasingly longer days that daylight saving time will bring when it arrives this Sunday, March 10, remind us that spring is just around the corner. The imminent time change also serves as a seasonal milestone to consider performing a few routine safety checks, and Atmos Energy encourages customers to inspect your home’s natural gas piping and appliances and confirm smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms are in working condition.

Maintain Your Natural Gas Lines
- In most states served by Atmos Energy, customers are responsible for any natural gas piping on your property from our gas meter to your home or business.
- This includes a pool or spa heater, barbeque, or other natural gas appliances. For your safety, operate appliances in accordance with manufacturers’ instructions. House piping should be tested or inspected periodically by a licensed plumber.

Monitor for Carbon Monoxide
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas that can be harmful when inhaled in large amounts. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) warns that CO can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness, and death.
- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends that consumers install carbon monoxide detectors and advise that a carbon monoxide alarm can provide added protection. Carbon monoxide detectors are not, however, a substitute for proper use and upkeep of appliances that can produce CO.
- The U.S. Fire Administration recommends installation and maintenance of CO alarms in a central location, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home to provide early warning of CO. You may also contact your state fire marshal’s office for information.

Even with warmer weather on the way, there are still several steps you can take to control energy costs, where safe to do so. Using energy wisely and making a few household changes can make a big difference in how much you spend on natural gas and other energy bills. Plus, you will lower your home’s carbon emissions when you use less energy.
- Reduce your shower and bath time, which can account for 40 percent of your hot water use.
- Operate your clothes washer, dryer, and dishwasher only when fully loaded.
- Change or clean your heating and air conditioning unit filters regularly and according to the manufacturer's instructions. Your equipment will use less energy if it ‘breathes’ more easily.
- If you have a pool, use the pool heater sparingly.
Atmos Energy offers rebates for high-efficiency natural gas appliances, energy-saving devices, and weatherization upgrades for customers in parts of Texas. Visit atmosenergy.com/rebates for details.

For customers who want a more predictable bill, payment solutions such as Budget Billing and Installment Plans can help manage your bill and household budget:

- **Budget Billing** is a free program that makes your natural gas bill more predictable every month because your costs are spread more evenly throughout the year, so you are not surprised by higher winter bills.
- Installment plans are available that spread out payments of your balance over time – with no charges or fees to do so. Call 888.286.6700 or visit the Account Center to establish a plan that meets your needs.

For customers managing past due balances, assistance may be available to help pay your natural gas bill:

- Atmos Energy’s *Sharing the Warmth* program, supported by donations from our customers and employees, has provided more than $6.4 million in financial assistance to help customers in need.
- In addition to *Sharing the Warmth*, financial assistance is also available from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through local energy assistance agencies.

Visit atmosenergy.com/assistance for more information about payment programs and financial assistance.

**About Atmos Energy**
Atmos Energy Corporation, an S&P 500 company headquartered in Dallas, is the country’s largest natural gas-only distributor. We safely deliver reliable, affordable, efficient and abundant natural gas to more than 3 million distribution customers in over 1,400 communities across eight states located primarily in the South. As part of our vision to be the safest provider of natural gas services, we are modernizing our business and infrastructure while continuing to invest in safety, innovation, environmental sustainability and our communities. Atmos Energy manages proprietary pipeline and storage assets, including one of the largest intrastate natural gas pipeline systems in Texas. Find us online at http://www.atmosenergy.com, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.