

No Heat? Get Help!

What does D.C. law say about heat in my apartment?

- From October 1 to May 1, landlords must make sure that rental units can stay heated at 68 degrees.

What can I do if my heat stops working and my landlord won't fix it?

- **Tell your landlord about the problem in writing and keep a copy for yourself.** Sending an email or a text message is okay.
- **Ask the Department of Buildings (DOB) for an emergency housing inspection by calling 311 or online at here.** DOB is responsible for inspecting rental units for housing code violations.
- **File a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) at the DC Superior Court Civil Clerk's Office, 500 Indiana Ave NW, Room 5000.** You do not have to have an attorney to file a TRO. The Clerk's Office can answer basic questions about how to fill out forms and give you an instruction sheet on how to serve the Complaint and Summons.

What if I don't have heat because I'm behind on my bills?

- **Call the D.C. services hotline at 311 and ask about the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).**
- **If you have a disconnection notice or have been disconnected, apply for assistance from the Washington Area Fuel Fund at <https://washingtonareafuelfund.org/>**

Stay Warm and Safe



- **Never use a gas stove or oven, kerosene heater, generator, or grill for heating indoors.** Burning fuel indoors can cause carbon monoxide to build up. Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas that can cause death. Signs of poisoning include headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, chest pain, and confusion. If you see signs of carbon monoxide poisoning, call 911 and find fresh air.
- **Call the Shelter Hotline at (202) 399-7093 or 311** to get into shelter if you have no heat and it is forecasted to be 40 degrees or below.

This flier is for informational purposes only. It is not an ad or legal advice, and it does not create an attorney-client relationship. This information may not reflect current legal developments. For legal advice, you should talk with an attorney.