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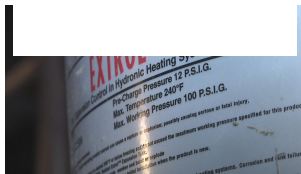
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Nick Natario

Heating Rebates For Those Affected by Irene

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Another Storm, More Wintry Mix Expected

Waterbury, Vermont - It's been nearly three weeks since Irene hit.

The flooding she caused ruined many homes and businesses.

As people begin to finish cleaning up, now is the time officials from the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association say is to fix or install a new heater.

"As this weather gets cooler are guys need to get in there quickly, re-establish that hot water because we don't want pipes freezing and we want to make sure people are warm at night," said V.F.D.A. Executive Director Matt Cota.

Jack Centonze is one of those whose furnace and water heater were damaged.

He's already replaced his water heater, but he's not looking forward to the cost of a new furnace.

"I guess I'm looking at a \$5-6000 dollar bill," said Centonze.

However he may not have to pay all of it.

Besides help from FEMA, there are a number of rebates available for those hit by Irene.

Efficiency Vermont is giving \$700 for a new oil or propane heating system.

And up to \$300 off the installation.

The "Spilt the Ticket" program matches members of the V.F.D.A. up to \$200 who donate labor or materials.

But the savings don't run forever.

"In some cases these rebates have a fixed amount attached to it. It's a 1st in 1st out," said Cota.

Programs that Centonze says help add some comfort after losing so much.

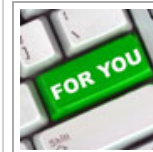
"Who wants to spend more than they actually have to," said Centonze?

If you could get the help he says, why not?

Information on heating rebates: <http://www.vermontfuel.com/irenehelp.html>



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