

Increase in Winter Heating Costs

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A recent article published by the Associated Press predicts that most Americans will pay a lot more to heat their homes this winter. That's because the Energy Department is estimating that heating oil costs are likely to jump 22 percent in response to supply restraints at local refineries. These shortages, combined with the forecast from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for a slightly colder winter (compared to last year), will force many Americans to turn down their thermostats and put on another layer of clothing.

There is, however, a viable alternative — cost effective, cleaner burning biodiesel fuel. With its vegetable oil base, biodiesel represents both an economical and environmentally friendly fuel source. It can be safely used to displace petroleum-based fuel used in diesel engines, as well as many home oil furnaces.

The new FuelMeister II makes it easier than ever to make biodiesel fuel right in a homeowner's garage, shed, or shop. The innovative FuelMeister II acts as a personal biodiesel processor, converting used fry oil into highly efficient biodiesel fuel.

The concept of consumers making their own biodiesel fuel is not new, as the first FuelMeister was created in 2003. However, this new generation biodiesel processor offers a number of innovations not found on competitive products to create a safer, faster and easier process with more consistent results.

Key to the unit's enhanced performance is the use of patent-pending direct catalyst injection, which increases the speed of chemical reaction, allowing the production of up to 80 gallons per day (twice that of the original FuelMeister) with a single tank system and 120 gallons per day with a separate wash tank. Quick-disconnect valves further facilitate operation and increase operator safety. And, overall, the operation has been streamlined so that there are only three, simple-to-use valves on the system.

Homeowners simply collect used fry oil from local restaurants, pour the liquid

into the processor, add the required amount of lye and methanol to convert the oil, and walk away while the FuelMeister does the work. The process even includes a number of checkpoints that confirm how well the batch is being processed to minimize any chance of operator error. The result is consistent-quality biodiesel fuel that's made for as little as \$0.70 per gallon—a true bargain in light of today's skyrocketing fuel prices. And unlike traditional oil, biodiesel burns much cleaner and does not produce the traditional “oily” smell associated with most oil furnaces.

For more information on the benefits of biodiesel fuel, visit www.doctordiesel.com or call (530) 524-5020.