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Biography



News

January 6, 2010

Happy New Year

Every person has their own way of bringing in the New Year and saying farewell to the old. Some common traditions are staying up late to ring in the New Year, spending the evening with family and friends, or going out to celebrate the coming year with members of the community. No matter how you celebrate the event, the New Year can provide us with new opportunities. This year, I would like to let you know about a couple programs offered by the state that you can use in 2010.



Promoting Energy Efficiency: A new *Energize Missouri Appliance Rebates* program is scheduled to begin April 19, 2010, to coincide with the state's second annual "Show Me Green Energy Star Sales Tax Holiday." The program will help Missourians buy appliances at a lower cost while reducing their overall utility bills and boosting area businesses by stimulating energy-efficient appliance sales. When Missourians purchase qualified Energy Star-rated

appliances, including gas furnaces, air source heat pumps, central air conditioners, clothes washers, dishwashers and water heaters, they will receive a rebate. To receive an Energy Star rating, appliances are required to meet certain minimum energy efficiency standards. According to Department of Natural Resources, a typical Missouri household can save more money and energy by replacing inefficient heating, cooling or water-heating equipment—which can account for more than half of a home’s energy bill—than any other home appliances. The federal government will provide more than \$5.6 million in funding to Missouri for the rebates, drawing down from funds reserved for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. For more information, including exactly which products are eligible, visit www.dnr.mo.gov/transform/energizemissourirebate.htm.

Common Sense Vehicle Requirements: A new state law that went into effect on January 1 exempts motor vehicles from safety inspection requirements for the first five years following the model year of manufacture. Currently, the Missouri Department of Revenue requires proof of a safety inspection when



vehicle registrations (license plates) are renewed. Citizens presently have the option of renewing their license plates for one-year or two-year periods, so the need to obtain safety inspections for owners of newer vehicles will be minimized. For more information on safety inspections go to the home page of the Department of Revenue's Web site (www.dor.mo.gov) and find “Do I Need a Vehicle Safety Inspection?” under the Featured Links section, or go directly to www.dor.mo.gov/mvdl/motorv/help.htm#safety.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions, and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell>.

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