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**For Immediate Release**  
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## Earth Day Brings Heating Oil Reduction Opportunities

Augusta--- The Governor’s Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted its seasonal oil survey and found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.75 per gallon**, unchanged from last week. “Risk appetite returned in the oil markets, weakening the dollar and boosting equities as positive corporate earnings news helped revive optimism about the economy and push oil prices higher,” said OEIS Director, John Kerry. “The prices of crude and heating oil also climbed on Tuesday as air travel bans in Europe were lifted.”

“As part of Earth Day celebrations, property owners should consider energy efficiency, weatherization and other clean energy improvements to reduce heating oil consumption,” Kerry continued.

*As of April 21, 2010*

| Heating Oil     | Statewide | Southwest | Central | Eastern | Western | Northern |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Average         | 2.75      | 2.64      | 2.78    | 2.83    | 2.70    | 2.91     |
| High            | 2.95      | 2.80      | 2.90    | 2.95    | 2.80    | 2.94     |
| Low             | 2.45      | 2.45      | 2.67    | 2.68    | 2.49    | 2.90     |
| <b>Kerosene</b> | 3.11      | 3.00      | 3.16    | 3.18    | 3.02    | 3.29     |
| <b>Propane</b>  | 2.65      |           |         |         |         |          |

It is important to note that the price for heating oil is a statewide average and that prices in a given geographic region of the state may be considerably higher or lower than the statewide average. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$2.45 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The highest price of \$2.95 per gallon was found in the Eastern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$3.11 per gallon at this time. The statewide average for propane based on a use of 600 gallons a year is \$2.65 per gallon. The table above provides current Maine cash prices in dollars rounded to the nearest penny. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$83.55.

For assistance please contact Efficiency Maine and ask about their Home Energy Savings Program. It links Maine homeowners with qualified, certified contractors who provide one-stop-shop access to a whole-house approach to home improvements. The first 4,000 **pre-approved** homes in the program will receive up to \$3,000 each in incentives for approved energy-efficiency projects that meet minimum heating and hot water energy savings requirements. For program details call 877-334-6583 or visit [www.energymaine.com](http://www.energymaine.com). Businesses should take advantage of Efficiency Maine’s small business loan program to make energy upgrades: [http://www.energymaine.com/business\\_programs.htm](http://www.energymaine.com/business_programs.htm).