## **ASK BLOSSMAN:**

Zone Heater Safety



Propane-fueled zone heaters offer homeowners high energy efficiency and fuel savings, provide warmth to specific areas, and allow unused spaces to be kept at lower temperatures. Typically, homeowners use two types of space heaters: direct-vent units, which require outside air to support combustion, and vent-free space heaters, units that rely on inside air to support combustion and vent directly in the room.



For optimal heat and efficiency this winter, homeowners should follow these

## **5 SIMPLE DO'S AND DON'TS OF ZONE HEATING SAFETY**

- 1. Use only heaters intended for home heating; check manufacturer's instructions for intended use.
- 2. For both types of space heaters, it is essential that the space above and around the unit be free from any combustible materials, such as draperies or plastics. Double-check your manufacturer's instructions for clearance distances, which vary widely depending on the type of unit.
- 3. Keep space heaters running in proper shape by scheduling a periodic check-up. Always have your space heater inspected by a qualified professional if it has been subjected to flooding or water damage.
- 4. Make sure the room or space the heater is installed in is large enough to provide sufficient combustion air. This is especially important for vent-free heaters.
- 5. Finally, homeowners are reminded to use their appliances in accordance with manufacturers' and service technician recommendations. This includes scheduling periodic inspections, maintaining proper clearances above and around appliances, and contacting qualified service technicians at Blossman Gas to perform any repairs.