

QUESTIONS
&
ANSWERS

Q: Is the work guaranteed?

A: The state requires contractors to warranty their work for 18 months.

Q: What are the benefits of Weatherization?

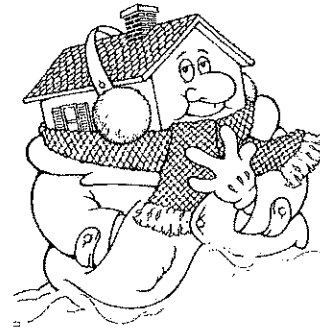
A: Reduced heating bills as much as 20-25 percent, a less drafty and more comfortable home.

Q: If I am found eligible, how long will it be before my home is weatherized?

A: The length of time varies in different parts of the state, from one month to one year. All eligible clients are prioritized.

TO APPLY

Contact the local Weatherization Agency serving your county. For assistance in locating other county agencies, call ((877) 691-3029 ext 50.



Southwest Michigan
Community Action Agency
Serving Berrien, Cass & Van Buren
Counties

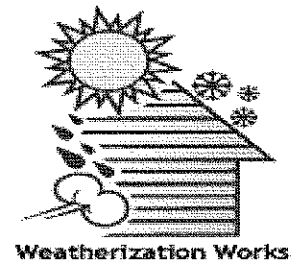
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A UNITED WAY AGENCY

SMCAA
WEATHERIZATION
INFORMATION

Southwest Michigan
Community Action
Agency
Serving Berrien, Cass
& Van Buren Counties



Michigan
Weatherization
Assistance
Program

WEATHERIZATION IN MICHIGAN

Weatherization is a State and Federally funded home energy conservation program which provides free services to low-income Michigan residents. It is funded by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), which contracts with local Community Action Agencies/ non-profit organizations to provide free energy saving measures to low-income households. According to a national survey, families that receive weatherization services can expect heating costs to be reduced 20 to 25 percent on average. At today's fuel cost, that amounts to about \$300.00 savings. As fuel costs continue to rise, even greater savings will result.

ELIGIBILITY

Any low-income home owner or renter who meets current federal poverty income guidelines is eligible. Families receiving state cash assistance, SSI or SDA benefits are automatically eligible.

SERVICES

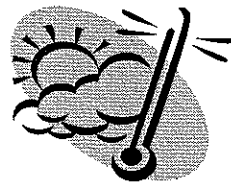
Once you apply and are found eligible, the local agency will send a trained inspector to your home. A typical inspection will include Blower Door testing for air leakage, Combustion Appliance testing for safety and efficiency, an evaluation of energy conservation needs, and a Health and Safety inspection.

Services include:

- Wall Insulation
- Attic Insulation & Ventilation
- Foundation Insulation
- Smoke Detectors
- Dryer Venting

A computerized audit is the basis for determining which measures are most cost effective for each individual dwelling.

**If you rent your home, it is the landlord's responsibility to repair or replace hot water heaters or any other appliances the inspector finds to be in need repair or replacement



QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Q: What determines the measures that will be installed on my home?

A: The work to be completed will be dependent upon the inspector's findings and the funds available. State and Federal rules allow for a specific maximum dollar investment per home.

Q: Will the contractors need to cut holes in my roof or sidewall to install vents or insulation?

A: Attic and sidewall insulation are the most cost effective energy conservation measures. Proper venting is essential to allow adequate air circulation in your attic and eliminate condensation problems. With sidewall installation, most siding will be lifted, but in some cases, it is necessary to drill through the siding.

Q: How do I know if I am getting quality material and workmanship?

A: DHS requires material to meet or exceed state and federal standards and testing requirements. All homes are inspected once work is complete to insure the work was properly done. Contractors and agencies are monitored by DHS for quality control.