

Innovative Outstanding Weatherization Assistance News

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Have a Wonderful Fall!

From all of us in the Bureau of
Weatherization in
Des Moines!

Jim, Gwen, Mark, Chris, Mike

Welcome

Fall is here and we are entering the third quarter of the Weatherization Program. The ICAA Conference will be held on October 20-22, 2003. We hope to see you there!

Should you have any questions about the reminders below, please feel free to contact the DCAA office at 515-281-3861.

- Be sure to look for your agency website under "Resources". If you don't see your agency listed, please contact Chris Taylor at 515-281-4565 or Christine.Taylor@iowa.gov.
- October is National Weatherization Month and October 30th is National Weatherization Day. Where will you be

and what will you be doing? Be sure to contact DCAA if you will be holding special demonstrations or celebrating in any way.

- Mark Bergmeier, the State of Iowa WAP Trainer, will soon be published in Home Energy. Be looking for Mark's article "A Little Help Please?", in the January/February 2004 issue.
- We strongly encourage agencies to obtain a digital camera for documentation purposes. The photos will come in handy for a variety of reasons, especially when proving a moisture problem existed prior to weatherization services taking place.

Statistics

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>*QTRLY</u>	<u>**YTD</u>
Houses Worked On	439	708
Completions	417	640
Closed Incomplete	22	68
Owner Occupied	420	663
Rentals	19	45
Elderly Occupied	170	261
Disabled Occupied	158	328
Furnace Replacements	135	206
Refrigerator Replacements	209	245
Freezer Replacements	58	77
Average Costs Per House	\$5,363	\$4,576

Totals for all agencies combined
* QTRLY (June, July, August)

** YTD (Program year through August)

Agency Spotlight – Upper Des Moines Opportunity

Phones for Funds

By: Upper Des Moines Opportunity

Have you been keeping up with technology? If you have, chances are there is an old wireless phone or two lying around the house. Make it useful again for Upper Des Moines Opportunity by participating in Midwest Wireless' "Phones for Funds" program. All area residents are invited to participate in the fundraising efforts by dropping off their old wireless phones at the Estherville Midwest Wireless store located at 1603 Central Avenue. For each phone collected, Midwest Wireless will donate funds to Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

With all the advances in wireless technology, individuals often update their wireless phones. The result is a surplus of old wireless phones. While these phones may not be used, they're not entirely useless. There are companies wanting to buy used wireless phones in bulk to be sold off for parts or used to produce new wireless phones.

It was with this thought in mind that Midwest Wireless established "Phones for Funds" in 2002. By setting up collection bins at all their retail locations, Midwest Wireless is able to pool all the phones gathered and sell them in bulk and raise funds for local charities like Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

Service Recognition

15 Year Anniversaries

2003—*Eldon Starmer* is the Evaluator/Inspector with MATURA in Creston.

20 Year Anniversaries

2003—*Verne Schutzman* is an Evaluator/Inspector with HACAP in Hiawatha.

2003—*Brent Henderson* is an Evaluator/Inspector with HACAP in Hiawatha.

25 Year Anniversaries

2003—*Rick Randall* is an Evaluator/Inspector with HACAP in Hiawatha.

2003—*Sharon Wise* is the Accountant/Compliance Specialist with HACAP in Hiawatha.

Resources

www.iowacommunityaction.com/

Iowa Community Action Association

www.ci.des-moines.ia.us/departments/CD/Comm%20Serv/Weatherization.htm

City of Des Moines

www.iowatrain.org/

Iowa East Central T.R.A.I.N.

www.midiaca.org/

Mid-Iowa Community Action

www.mid-siouxopportunity.org/

Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.

www.nicao-online.org/

North Iowa Community Action Organization

www.neicac.org/

Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation

www.operationnewview.org/

Operation New View Community Action Agency

www.operationthreshold.org/

Operation Threshold

Last year, Midwest Wireless raised \$970.81 for Upper Des Moines Opportunity and over \$68,000 total for charities throughout the company's service area.

"Upper Des Moines Opportunity will be using the donation from Midwest Wireless for Back to School Supplies for the children in Emmet County. This can be a very large expense for our families, and we feel that the donation from Midwest Wireless will be a great way to help with this expense," said Dawn Peta, of Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

"Phones for Funds" not only raises money for worthwhile local charities like Upper Des Moines, it also fulfills an environmental purpose, ensuring the phones are recycled rather than thrown away.

The collection will culminate next March, 2004 with Upper Des Moines receiving a check for the phones collected from the Estherville Midwest Wireless store. Any wireless phone will be accepted, as well as wireless accessories.

For more information, visit www.midwestwireless.com.

News—Residential Load Calculation Training

Heating System Sizing

The Weatherization Bureau of Iowa recently hosted a training by Rick Karg, a national presenter, who developed the software that is used in the TI-86 calculator. The session, held in Ames on September 9th and 10th, 2003, based on the book

Residential Load Calculation (Manual J) by the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA), addressed correctly sizing heating systems.



Those in attendance gained the knowledge that will enable them to

thoroughly check over a contractors sizing calculation to determine if it is realistic. All too often, heating systems are 240% larger than necessary. An installed replacement heating system should ideally be 20% oversized but never oversized by more than 50%.



There are many points to consider when calculating the size of a heating system: the Design Heat Load of each conditioned room; the heating system output requirement; the heat distribution needed for each room; and how to select the proper system for a dwelling.



Attendees found that improperly sizing a heating system causes many problems. If the unit is undersized, the heating capacity will not be large enough for the dwelling. Oversizing a system causes problems such as increased

equipment costs, lower seasonal efficiency, and the increased

chance of corrosion in the flue. Properly sizing heating systems can increase the homes' energy efficiency and save the client money.



It is important to remember there are five modes of heat loss in every dwelling: through the roof; windows; walls; doors and floors, and that all above-grade and below-grade walls are computed separately—a common mistake made by contractors. It is imperative that all evaluators and inspectors understand how to calculate the heat load for homes to ensure maximum client savings.



Once the size is determined, it is recommended that agencies utilize the Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA) Directory to select the proper system.

Agencies may also visit www.gamanet.org/consumer/certification/certdir.htm.

As with all of our weatherization work, we strive to install the most energy efficient measures and provide the best client education. It is important that clients turn down their thermostats, however, because adding insulation changes the thermal dynamics of the dwelling, we are encouraged to tell clients to set their thermostats to their individual comfort level.

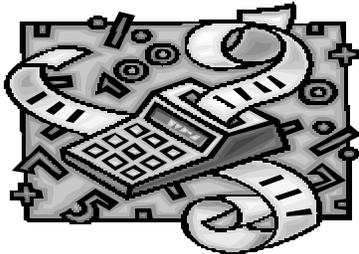
For more information about Residential Load Calculation, contact the State Weatherization Bureau.



Fiscal News

Tips from the Fiscal Monitoring Team

By: Jim Mezera and Mike Adams



INFORMATION OVERLOAD? NOT!!!

Four words you'll never--or rarely--hear a fiscal monitor say, "That's too much information!"

We'll admit there is a lot of information in the home weatherization files. And we are sure that it means something of great value to the people in the weatherization programs. But to us, it's Greek.

While we do not need to understand everything in the file, here is how you can help us do our jobs more effectively. By helping us you not only help other monitors but you also help yourselves. The more clearly and concisely information is shown in the files the fewer questions may arise.

When breaking out expenses for furnaces and water heaters, break it out by materials, labor, venting materials, and venting labor. As you are aware the cost of venting is not part of the expenditure limit. Therefore, if the total cost of the furnace or water heater (materials, labor, and venting) is over the expenditure limit, you may still be under the limit by subtracting

venting material and labor. Now that sounds like Greek to you—right!

If there is a special circumstance for which you went outside the normal weatherization procedures, an explanation always helps. That way, we won't think you were trying to pull a fast one on us. For example—if you replace a refrigerator for a client the procedure is to remove the old one from the premises. If for some reason you don't remove the old refrigerator, a written explanation will save questions during the monitoring visit.

We will be visiting your agency within the next 12 months. If we can be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact us.

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E-mail – Jim.Mezera@iowa.gov

Mike Adams – Phone (515) 242-6312
E-mail – Michael.Adams@iowa.gov

Tentative 2003 Fiscal Monitoring Schedule

February – SCICAP, Mid-Iowa
March – TRAIN, City of Des Moines
April – Community Opportunities, West Central
May – Upper Des Moines, MATURA
June – Mid-Sioux, Woodbury
July – SIEDA, Southeast Iowa
September – Northeast Iowa, North Iowa
October – New View, Threshold
November – HACAP

Questions and Answers

Question: Should agencies install CO alarms that pick up lower levels of carbon monoxide than standard alarms pick up?

Question: Do we change existing exhaust vent ducting to meet our standards?

Question: Because there isn't a NEAT Audit for mobile homes and no way to confirm efficiency, can we change light bulbs anyway?

Answer: Agencies may install alarms that pick up lower levels of carbon monoxide if they desire. The only requirement is that they are UL approved.

Answer: If the venting goes to the outside and has a termination, it is not necessary to change the duct, insulate it, or change the termination. If there is an apparent moisture problem (i.e. duct is uninsulated and condensation occurs) then you should make necessary repairs (insulate and/or change duct type).

Answer: Replace the light bulbs if they meet the 3-hour criteria (Technical Standards Section 520).

News—Continued

The Commission on Community Action Agencies recently voted to place a 5-year moratorium on the requirement that landlords contribute 20% of the estimated labor and material cost of weatherizing their rental units. We believe that rescinding the contribution requirement will result in providing weatherization services to more renters during this 5-year period. The temporary rescission was effective August 15, 2003. Updated landlord agreement forms and contract amendments have been sent to each agency. If you did not receive these documents, please contact the DCAA office at 515-281-3861.

"Mere thanks does not seem enough for all you have done for me. I cannot say enough about your workers, they were courteous, considerate, polite and thorough. What a wonderful program I hadn't realized existed!" - Mid-Sioux Client

If your agency will be taking advantage of the Weatherization Bulk Refrigerator Program available from GE, visit www.waptac-energystar.org/bulkpurch/ge.htm for details about the program. Should you have any questions, contact Rusha Miles, the National Account Government Sales Manager for GE Appliances at 502-339-3254.

Mid-American Energy has recently increased their funding by \$200,000, totaling \$1 million for this year.

The Training Allowance Reimbursement Form has recently undergone some changes. Should you have any questions or suggestions about the following changes, please feel free to contact Rosemary Hoover at 515-242-6120 or Rosemary.Hoover@iowa.gov.

1. A photocopy of your agency's internal travel report will now be accepted to show mileage.
2. A photocopy of a lodging invoice will now be accepted for reimbursement.
3. A line was added for an additional day of lodging and meals reimbursement.
4. A checklist was added at the bottom of the form. This is to be used to ensure all signatures, etc., have been made.
5. Codes were changed to reflect the current budget year.

Tentative 2003 Program Monitoring Schedule

October – Northeast Iowa
November – New View
December – West Central

News—Continued

National Recognition Award

Iowa weatherization personnel were recognized at the 2003 DOE Weatherization Conference that was held in Phoenix on August 18 – 21. Mark Bergmeier and Mike Speed with the State of Iowa, and Jim Perry with Northeast Iowa Community Action Agency, were recognized along with personnel from other states in the Chicago Region, DOE staff, and others for their involvement with the Chicago Regional Diagnostic Group.

Mark Ginsberg, the former DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs, presented the group with a National Recognition Award. Following are Mr. Ginsberg's comments:

In 1997, the Chicago Regional Diagnostic Group was formed, bringing together technical representatives from within the Chicago Region to assess the effectiveness of their current diagnostic protocols.

This group orchestrated studies in Zonal Pressure Diagnostics, Duct Leakage Testing, and Cookstove Testing Protocols. The results, many of which are being pre-

sented here this week, have changed the technical standards for Weatherization.

This Group's results have simplified for crews and contractors the verification process -- ensuring the work has been completed to set standards.

Furthermore, the Chicago Regional Diagnostic Group's work provides verification that the standards and techniques that are being taught are, in fact, effective practices.

It is with great pleasure we recognize and award the Chicago Regional Diagnostic Group a National Recognition Award for their leadership in the technical area.

"Words cannot express how much we appreciate all that you have done for us and the house. I'm sorry that it turned into such a big job. You guys are such a nice group of workers." - HACAP Client

Upcoming Events

October 2003

- 7-8 *Mold/Moisture/Ventilation Training.* To be held at MICA in Marshalltown. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.
- 14 *Blower Door/BTL/Duct Leakage Training.* To be held at SE Iowa in Burlington. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.
- 15 *Combustion Health and Safety Training.* To be held at SE Iowa in Burlington. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.
- 20-22 *ICAA Annual Training Conference.* To be held at Adventureland Inn in Des Moines. For more information, visit www.iowacommunityaction.com.

November 2003

- 5 *Appliance Metering/BART/TI-86 Training.* To be held at SE Iowa in Burlington. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.
- 6 *NEAT Audit Set-Up Training.* To be held at SE Iowa in Burlington. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.

December 2003

- 2-3 *High Density Insulation Training.* To be held at MICA in Marshalltown. For more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861.

Speed Bumps

- When installing power-vented appliances the necessary plug-ins should be close enough to the appliance so an extension cord is not necessary.
- Freezers need to be metered and replaced when appropriate.
- Slants need to be dense packed.
- Obvious holes in duct work need to be sealed.
- The new forms for fuel switching and over expenditure limits should be used. They are on the CD that was handed out at the retreat, or if you weren't present at the retreat you would have received it in the mail.
- Agencies should have several sizes of refrigerators available to install into the clients' home. We are especially concerned that a client would be reluctant to replace a side by side with a much smaller refrigerator (i.e. 18cu. ft.). Because there is a large potential to save energy in this case, we should offer a suitable size substitute.
- Thermal dampers on water heater and furnace vent pipes must be removed.
- Garage leakage testing must be performed and documented (house to zone leakage).

Please feel free to copy and distribute.

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