

Innovative

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From all of us in the
Weatherization Bureau
in Des Moines

Jim, Gwen, Mark, Marcia,
Chris, Mike and Rosemary

Welcome

Welcome to the fall edition of our newsletter!

As you know, some trees have already started turning and are looking beautiful. Here is a sunrise view from Decorah. Doesn't it look like a postcard?!



Well, along with the beauty of fall comes more phone calls from potential clients, hoping to have their homes weatherized. Remember, if it is an emergency situation and the client qualifies for weatherization, the client can be moved to the top of the priority list. However, if the client is not experiencing an emergency, determine their priority number and place them in the priority list accordingly. And, as always, if you have questions, be sure to review the *Weatherization Policy and Procedures* manual as well as your agency's policy and procedures *before* calling the state office.

Statistics

| <u>Item</u> | <u>*QTRLY</u> | <u>**YTD</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Houses Worked On | 497 | 856 |
| Completions | 447 | 785 |
| Closed Incomplete | 50 | 71 |
| Owner-Occupied | 437 | 747 |
| Rentals | 60 | 109 |
| Elderly-Occupied | 176 | 276 |
| Disabled-Occupied | 218 | 375 |
| Occupied by Young Children | 92 | 165 |
| Furnace Replacements | 218 | 380 |
| Refrigerator Replacements | 134 | 260 |
| Freezer Replacements | 75 | 112 |
| Average Costs per House | \$6,995 | \$6,989 |

Totals for all agencies combined
*QTRLY (June 2007—August 2007)
** YTD (April 2007—August 2007)

Agency Spotlight—Operation: New View Community Action Agency

THE DUBUQUE WEATHERIZATION CHALLENGE 2007 “KEEP THE WEATHER OUTSIDE” SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2007

On Saturday, October 6th, volunteer weatherization teams will spread out across the Dubuque Community in a one-day blitz to perform energy saving measures on the homes of their elderly, disabled and low-income neighbors. The goal of this first-time event is to provide 100 homes with simple weatherization measures such as caulking, weatherstripping, window plastic, door sweeps and other insulating techniques. The project aims to “keep the weather outside” for the targeted homes, reduce their home energy consumption, save them money on their winter heating bills and provide educational materials on how to lower their home energy costs.

All targeted homes will be selected in advance by Operation: New View Community Action Agency. The agency will conduct a weatherization assessment to determine what measures are needed and to develop a list of needed supplies and materials.

The success of the Dubuque Weatherization Challenge will depend on the number of volunteer teams that sign up to participate. The goal is to have 50 teams and 300 volunteers. Each team will consist of 6 volunteers who will be assigned to weatherize 2 homes that day. Each team will name one of their members as the team leader. All volunteers will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Kennedy Mall for breakfast and training before heading out to their assigned homes. They will report back to Kennedy Mall after their homes have been completed. During the week leading up to the event, Kennedy Mall will provide educational displays and activities focused on home energy savings.

The volunteer teams will come from organizations within the Dubuque Community. This is a great opportunity to lend a helping hand for service clubs, civic and fraternal groups, church groups, neighborhood associations, businesses, employee groups and other organizations. All community groups are invited to participate and to recruit one or more 6-person teams to help with this worthwhile and much-needed project. Organizations can sign up to participate and report their team leaders by calling Laura Roussell at Aquila at 583-0415 x22. All teams are asked to be registered by September 14th.

Cash donations are being accepted to provide for the great amount of supplies and materials that will be needed for this project. Checks should be made payable to “Operation: New View Community Action Agency.” Please write “Dubuque

Weatherization Challenge” on all checks. Mail checks to: Operation: New View Community Action Agency, 1473 Central Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52001-4853. In-kind donations of weatherization supplies and materials are also needed and appreciated. For more information, call Tom Stovall at Operation: New View CAA at 556-5130 x32.

All donations are tax-deductible.

The Dubuque Weatherization Challenge 2007 is a community partnership sponsored by Aquila, Alliant Energy, Kennedy Mall and Operation: New View Community Action Agency. Additional funding to date provided by Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Iowa Utilities Board and the Diamond Jo Casino.

Resources

www.airfoillinc.com

AIRFOIL, INC has developed a line of airtight electrical outlet and device boxes that play a fundamental role in energy efficient home construction.

www.environmentalbuilding.net

Helping homeowners and homebuilders retrofit and build high performance homes that are more energy efficient, healthy, comfortable, durable, and environmentally responsible.

www.angelfoodministries.com

Dedicated to providing grocery relief to communities throughout the United States. There aren't any income guidelines.

www.energy.iastate.edu/efficiency

Energy efficiency research, demonstrations and educational projects.

Equipment Maintenance

Equipment Maintenance

Proper maintenance of equipment used in the weatherization program is very important. Because testing results are critical to decisions made by evaluators, it is very important to ensure the equipment used for testing is accurate and in good working condition. Some equipment may become inaccurate over time either through repeated use or from being damaged. Therefore, the equipment needs to be recalibrated periodically.

Following are some general guidelines about recalibration and maintenance schedules for some of the equipment used in the program. Although these guidelines are meant to be helpful to you, it is best to check the owner's manuals for manufacturers' guidelines specific to the equipment you have.

Combustion Analyzers – Recalibrate every six months.

- O₂ Sensors normally last about two years.
- CO Sensors normally last between three and five years.
- The temperature and pressure sensors are solid-state and do not require recalibration unless damaged.



Digital Pressure Gauges – Recalibrate annually.

Gas Leak Detector – Recalibrate occasionally.

- Test occasionally using the gas from a lighter. If the gas does not set off the detector's alarm, the detector needs to be recalibrated/repared.

Blower Door

- Blower door fans generally maintain their calibration unless they are physically damaged. Most problems with blower doors will be with the gauges. However,

the fan housing, which is a calibrated hole, can be damaged over time. Any fan unit that is cracked is likely to cause problems with accuracy of readings. Errors can also be caused if the fan motor shifts in its bracket. To ensure the fan is functioning properly, test the unit against a known good unit to assure they produce the same readings.



Insulation Blower

- Clean filters after each use. Check blower pressure weekly and document the pressures over time. If the pressure is dropping, so is the throughput. If pressure degrades, check filters and seals.



If a piece of equipment needs to be recalibrated, it should be sent to the company from which you purchased it.

For more information regarding maintenance tips for blower doors and digital pressure gauges, visit the Energy Conservatory's website

<http://www.energyconservatory.com/support/support7.htm> .

News

CAP Name Change—Effective July 1, 2007, West Central Development Corporation in Harlan, Iowa changed their name to West Central Community Action. Please revise all correspondence accordingly.

Weatherization Website Update—The following updates have been made on the Weatherization website. Go to www.weatherization.iowa.gov and then click on Publications/Presentations. Contact us with any questions.

- 2007 Weatherization Fact Sheet
 - CY2006 Top Ten Measures Installed
 - CY2006 SLICE Report
-

DCAA and Weatherization Websites—Now, we know you all use the Iowa Division of Community Action Agencies (www.dcaa.iowa.gov) and Weatherization Bureau (www.weatherization.iowa.gov) websites religiously, but did you know that other people from all over the United States, including Ireland and Sweden are utilizing the information on our websites as well? Yes! In fact, since February 1, 2007, when we started keeping track, we have had 18,401 visitors, 5,926 of which were first time visitors, meaning they hadn't visited the site before and 1,070 of which were returning visitors. Now, that's a lot of traffic! If you have any suggestions on how to make our website more user-friendly or you would like to see something changed or added, be sure to get in touch with Christine Taylor at 515-281-4565 or via email at Christine.Taylor@iowa.gov.

Refrigeration Appliances—We have been told the refrigerant now used in refrigerators and freezers cannot handle extreme temperatures. The new refrigerant is called HFC-134A. If a refrigerator/freezer containing this new refrigerant is located where it is exposed to extreme temperatures and it malfunctions, the problem will not be covered by the warranty. Therefore, until we have time to research this further, new refrigerators and freezers should only be located in intentionally or unintentionally conditioned areas (inside the thermal boundary). We will update you on this issue upon

completion of our research.

House Evaluations—In our desire for continuous program improvement and to prepare the network for evaluator certification, we have discussed various ways in which we can ensure evaluators understand and follow the program's technical standards, policies and procedures when conducting evaluations of homes. One way we can do this is review homes that have been evaluated but not yet weatherized.

Reviewing homes after evaluation but before weatherization, will allow us to see how consistently each evaluator is conducting evaluations according to the Work Standards and whether measures are being missed. It will also be a good way for us to see if there are technical issues we need to focus on more in our technical training.

Mike Speed and Mark Bergmeier will be conducting the reviews. During the next year or two, we hope to review evaluations conducted by each evaluator at each agency. Mike and Mark will be able to offer immediate recommendations and one-on-one training if needed. They will follow-up each visit with a letter to you indicating the details of the review. Reviewing evaluations is not a program requirement; therefore the assessments will be unofficial but will help guide future training decisions and other program enhancements.

This will be an excellent opportunity for you to accompany Mike and Mark on the reviews and gain more knowledge of the evaluation process. We strongly encourage you to do this.

Please note that although Mike will be reviewing evaluations at each agency, he will continue to conduct house inspections, as required by DOE.

We are excited about this new endeavor and welcome any questions you may have.

What's All the Fuss About Lead Paint?

What's All the Fuss About Lead Paint?

By Robert Adams

It seems that every day we hear about something related to lead paint in the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). We have Lead Safe Weatherization protocols (LSW) so we do no harm while we weatherize the homes. We have pollution occurrence insurance (POI) to help cover our liability if we make a mistake and disturb lead dust. And we have new safety equipment, like Tyvek suits, to protect our workers from the health hazard when it is present in the home.

But how did all these new work practices and insurance and equipment evolve? And how did they find their way into the WAP. And why should our state and local agencies conduct training and monitoring and oversight to ensure these new practices are followed. In other words, what is all the fuss about lead paint?

During the 19th century, U.S. paint manufacturers used "white lead" as a pigment for house paint because it could be tinted a variety of colors and was thought to be a protective coating. This practice continued through the late 1970s when the government passed legislation to remove lead from paints used in residential properties. However, lead is still used today for the same reason as decades ago – to create a lasting brilliance to vibrant paint colors. Although lead poisoning from paint was documented as a serious threat to children in the early 1900s, lead was used in paint on exterior and interior of homes, wood-working, furniture and even cribs, for decades. In fact, recent stories about recalled toys manufactured in China reveal that lead based paints are still used today.

There exists a letter penned by Benjamin Franklin to his admirer Benjamin Vaughn on July 31, 1786 that documents the health hazards of lead in everyday use during his life. Franklin stated that, "*The first thing I remember of this kind (lead poisoning), was a general discourse in Boston when I was a Boy, of a Complaint from North Carolina against New England Rum, that it poison'd their People, giving them the Dry Bellyach, with a Loss of the Use of their Limbs. The Distilleries being examin'd on the Occasion, it was found that several of them used leaden Still-heads and Worms, and the Physicians were of the Opinion that the Mischief was occasion'd by that Use of Lead. The Legislature of the Massachusetts thereupon pass'd an Act prohibiting under severe Penalties the Use of such Still-heads & Worms thereafter.*" Franklin further described his experience in England as an apprentice in a print shop where he would warm the typesetting materials (lead composite) before using them. He stated in his letter that, "... *an old Workman observing it, advis'd me not to do so, telling me I might lose the Use of my Hands by it, as two of our Companions had nearly*

done... I had sometimes felt as it were in the Bones of my Hand when working over the Types made very hot, induc'd me to omit the Practice. But talking afterwards with Mr. James, a Letter-founder in the same Close, and asking him if his People, who work'd over the little Furnaces of melted Metal, were not subject to that Disorder; he made light of any Danger from the Effluvia, but ascrib'd it to Particles of the Metal swallow'd with their Food by slovenly Workmen, who went to their Meals after handling the Metal, without well-washing their Fingers, so that some of the metalline Particles were taken off by their Bread and eaten with it."

Another of Franklin's annotations was that, "*In America I have often observed that on the Roofs of our shingled Houses where Moss is apt to grow in northern Exposures, if there be any thing on the Roof painted with white lead, such as Balusters, or Frames of dormant Windows, &c. there is constantly a streak on the Shingles from such Paint down to the Eaves, on which no Moss will grow...*" However, it may be his comments about the trades that were most enlightening, "*When I was in Paris with Sir John Pringle in 1767, he visited La Charite, a Hospital particularly famous for the Cure of that Malady, and brought from thence a Pamphlet, containing a List of the Names of Persons, specifying their Professions or Trades, who had been cured there. I had the Curiosity to examine that List, and found that all the Patients were of Trades that some way or other use or work in Lead; such as Plumbers, Glasiers, Painters, &c. excepting only two kinds, Stonecutters and Soldiers. These I could not reconcile to my Notion that Lead was the Cause of that Disorder. But on my mentioning this Difficulty to a Physician of that Hospital, he inform'd me that the Stonecutters are continually using melted Lead to fix the Ends of Iron Balustrades in Stone; and that the Soldiers had been employ'd by Painters as Labourers in Grinding of Colours."*

Special Note: Benjamin Vaughan was a youthful admirer and close friend of Franklin, who was 80 years old when he wrote to Vaughan. The letter press copy of Franklin's communication is in the Library of Congress, the holograph not having survived. Excerpts of the letter are reproduced here with the original capitalization and spelling.

The hazards of lead are located everywhere - through deteriorating paint, household dust, bare soil, air, drinking water, food, ceramics, home remedies, hair dyes and other cosmetics to name a few. By far the biggest source of exposure to lead for humans is the paint dust found in our older housing stock. Until 1978, lead paint was commonly used on the interiors and exteriors of our homes. Today, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) estimates that about 38 million homes in the U.S. still contain some lead paint, while 25% of

What's All the Fuss About Lead Paint? —Continued

- Continued from page 5

the housing – or nearly 24 million homes - contains significant lead-based paint hazards, i.e. deteriorating lead paint or lead-contaminated dust. While lead paint that is in intact condition does not pose an immediate concern, lead paint that is allowed to deteriorate creates a lead-based paint hazard. It can contaminate household dust as well as bare soil around the house, where children may play. In either situation, a child who comes into contact with lead-contaminated dust or soil is easily poisoned. All it takes is hand-to-mouth activity, which is perfectly normal for young children, and the lead dust equivalent of a single grain of salt for a child to register an elevated blood lead level. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has set a "level of concern" for children at 10 micrograms per deciliter. However, recent research published in the New England Journal of Medicine provides new evidence that there could well be very harmful effects occurring at even lower levels of exposure, even as low as 5 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood. In other words, science is now telling us that there is in fact no level of lead exposure that can be considered safe.

There are many different health effects associated with elevated blood lead levels. Young children under the age of six are especially vulnerable to these harmful effects because their brains and central nervous system are still being formed. For them, even very low levels of exposure can result in reduced IQ, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders, behavioral problems, stunted growth, impaired hearing, and kidney damage. At high levels of exposure, a child may become mentally retarded, fall into a coma, and even die from lead poisoning. Within the last ten years, children have died from lead poisoning in New Hampshire and in Alabama. Lead poisoning has also been associated with juvenile delinquency and criminal behavior.

It takes a significantly greater level of exposure to lead for adults to sustain adverse health effects. Most adults who are lead poisoned get exposed to lead at work. Occupations related to renovation and remodeling activities are always subject to lead dust exposure on the job. Workers in these occupations must take care not to leave their work site with potentially contaminated clothing, tools, and facial hair, or with unwashed hands. Otherwise, they can spread the lead to their family members.

Now we all know we didn't introduce the lead paint into the home. We know that in many homes we weatherize, the condition and maintenance of the home is the primary cause for any lead hazard contamination that exists. And if we work in a

lead safe manner we will do no harm and leave the home in better condition than when we arrived. Right? Well maybe no....

You may begin hearing things about a new policy being considered by the Department of Energy (DOE) related to testing homes where lead paint exists. There is some truth to this buzz. A report was recently delivered to DOE entitled "*Analysis of Lead-Safe Weatherization Practices and the Presence of Lead in Weatherized Home.*" The report was based on a study performed by the National Center for Healthy Housing to determine the appropriate policies and protocols for dealing with lead safety in the WAP. The results of the study indicated that the levels of lead paint were higher than acceptable EPA standards in some homes following the completion of certain Weatherization measures, specifically, when work was done on doors and windows.

DOE is working in conjunction with its Health and Safety Committee to prepare a response to the report that will ensure that lead safety is practiced in the WAP while maintaining the Program's focus on energy efficiency and creating energy savings for low-income families. Throughout the coming months, you will hear from Project Management Center staff and others at DOE Headquarters and your associations about this proposed policy and its potential impact on the Program. You will be given several opportunities to provide comment to the proposal and make any recommendations you feel will improve its implementation. It will take the collective efforts of state staff, local WAP managers and crews, monitors, quality control inspectors, trainers, contractors and other specialists to be successful in addressing the findings of the report and ensuring we are making the homes we weatherize more energy efficient and safer.

Lead poisoning is the number one environmental hazard threatening children throughout the United States, affecting an estimated 240,000 children under the age of six. The reality is that lead poisoning is completely preventable. Yet thousands of children are diagnosed with elevated blood lead levels each year. Because of lead's effect upon a child's brain, these children fail to reach their full potential. There are so many things we face everyday that we say, "we can't do anything about." This isn't one of them. Let's make sure we weatherize using the best lead safe practices we know. The WAP must not be a contributing factor to any child being less than they can be in this world.

NASCSP would like to thank the National Safety Council – www.ncs.org - for the use of information regarding lead hazards and the associated health risks.

—Reprinted with permission by the author

Energy Star Refrigerators

DOE Announces New Criteria for Energy Star Refrigerators

DOE announced on August 3rd that it has increased the efficiency criteria for refrigerators with the Energy Star label. To qualify for the label, full-size refrigerators must be at least 20% more efficient than current federal energy efficiency standards, an increase from the current 15% minimum. The new criteria will go into effect on April 28th, 2008, and are expected to save U.S. families up to \$23.5 million annually on their electric bills. The savings on electricity should offset any additional cost for Energy Star refrigerators within 3 to 5 years of the time of purchase. Freezers and compact refrigerators are not included in the new criteria. See the [DOE press release](#), the [current criteria](#) for Energy Star refrigerators, and the [new criteria](#).

Energy Star is a joint program of DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which announced on July 31st that the program is launching new Energy Star labels for commercial dishwashers and ice machines. Energy Star-qualified commercial dishwashers will be, on average, 27% more energy efficient than standard models, while the ice machines will be 14% more energy efficient. Restaurant and commercial kitchen owners and operators will be able to pur-

chase Energy Star-qualified commercial dishwashers starting on October 11th, while ice makers will be available at the beginning of 2008. Over the next five years, these new Energy Star products are expected to save restaurants \$100 million in reduced energy and water costs. See the [EPA press release](#), the new Energy Star criteria for [dishwashers](#) and [ice machines](#), and the [Energy Star Commercial Food Service Web page](#).

DOE is also considering setting new minimum efficiency standards for commercial refrigeration equipment. New standards will only be put in place if DOE determines that they would be technologically feasible and economically justified, and would result in significant energy savings. DOE is specifically considering new standards for commercial versions of ice-cream freezers; self-contained refrigerators, freezers, and refrigerator-freezers without doors; and remote-condensing refrigerators, freezers, and refrigerator-freezers. DOE will hold a public meeting on August 23rd and will accept public comments through October 9th. See the DOE's [Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) in the July 26th edition of the Federal Register.

—From the August 8, 2007 EERE Network News
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Questions and Answers

Question: I have a refrigeration vendor, with whom I have a signed Vendor Agreement. The vendor refuses to honor the appliance warranty. Is there any way I can get out of this agreement?

Answer: The Vendor Agreement is simply that; an agreement that the vendor will honor a certain price on a specific appliance for an agreed upon timeframe. This is not the same as a binding Weatherization or Furnace contract. Therefore, you can cease purchasing appliances from that vendor at any time you deem appropriate.

Question: What is the proper procedure for requesting reimbursement for our agencies' Pollution Occurrence Insurance (POI) premium for the Weatherization Program?

Answer: Agencies wishing to be reimbursed for POI insurance must send a reimbursement request to the DCAA that includes a copy of the insurance premium invoice showing what the policy is for, the period of the policy, and the amount of the premium. Agencies will be reimbursed through a "POI Insurance" line item added to the HEAP Contracts.

House Inspections

Weatherization Bureau House Inspection Procedure Changes

Recently, we made some changes to the way we report house inspection findings and to better clarify what constitutes findings.

We have been using the terms “Failures”, “Non-Failures”, and “Corrective Work Required (CWR)” as a way to describe inspection findings. In order to be more consistent with program and fiscal monitoring, we will begin using the terms “Major Findings” and “Minor Findings” to describe inspection findings. **Major** findings will require corrective work. **Minor** findings will not require corrective work *unless* we continue to find the same thing in subsequent inspections. These changes do not affect the way the house inspections are conducted.

We have defined what constitutes a major finding and a minor finding and how major and minor findings impact agencies. Following are the definitions and impacts.

Major Findings

Any of the following constitute a major finding:

- A health and safety problem the agency should have addressed but didn't address.
- A health and safety problem that was caused by or exacerbated by the work done by the agency.
- The omission of a required health and safety measure.
- The omission of a measure with major energy savings potential.
- The omission of measures called for by the energy audit, unless the omission is justified and documented.
- Poor quality of work that significantly affects the performance of measures with major energy savings potential.
- Poor quality of work that may not significantly affect the performance of major energy saving measures but is on such a large scale that it is a bad reflection on the program.

- Poor quality of work that significantly affects the performance of a health and safety measure.
- Failure to conduct required diagnostic tests and metering.
- The omission of any work that was paid for by the agency.
- Minor findings that are found on repeated inspection visits.

Impact of major findings on agencies

- Requires the agency to do corrective work within a specified period of time.
- Requires the agency to send DCAA a Corrective Work Completed Report within a specified period of time.
- May result in disallowed costs.
- May result in increased inspections.
- May result in requiring additional training of staff.

Minor Findings

Any of the following constitute a minor finding:

- The omission of a measure that is generally not a major energy savings measure.
- Poor quality of work but does not significantly affect the performance of the measures.
- Measures not done according to the Work Standards but are not a major finding.

Impact of minor findings on agencies

- Does not require the agency to do corrective work. However, the agency is expected to ensure the problem is not repeated with work done in the future.
- Does not require the agency to send the DCAA a Corrective Work Completed Report.
- Will be considered a major finding if found on repeated inspection visits.

Please feel free to contact our office with any questions about these changes.

Service Recognition

100 Years Plus of Community Action Service—On Sept. 12, 2007 MATURA Action Corporation had its annual meeting and dinner. One of the service recognitions went to Jan Ritter for 30 years at MATURA Action Corporation. She joins an elite club of over 30 years and who's counting here at MATURA. The picture shows Jan (Fiscal officer), who received her 30 year award this year, with June West (Administrative officer) and Jerry Smith (Executive director). Between the three of them, they represent 100 years plus of community action service here at MATURA. Jerry received his 30 year award last year. It is told that June is the top seniority holder in the state of Iowa. We are all very proud of them and feel very fortunate to have them as our Administrative leaders.

—Submitted by Eldon Starmer, MATURA



Mason City Recycling Center Tour

On August 22, 2007, the IWAC Association met for a meeting in Mason City which was hosted by North Iowa Community Action Corporation. After the meeting was conducted, a tour of the Mason City Recycling Center took place. Attendees received a first-hand look at the recycling process which turns paper into cellulose insulation.



Paper is sorted and placed on the conveyor belt.



A robotic arm places packages of cellulose onto pallets.

Extreme Photos



This is obviously not burning properly.



What's up, or down, with this draft diverter?

Cobwebs are EVERYWHERE. I wonder when this furnace quit drafting...



Hmmm...This chimney hole is plugged. Could that be why the pipe rusted off???? And, where is the pipe???



Oh...here it is on the ground. Right where we want it!

Have you ever wondered how NOT to vent a kitchen exhaust? Well, here you go...



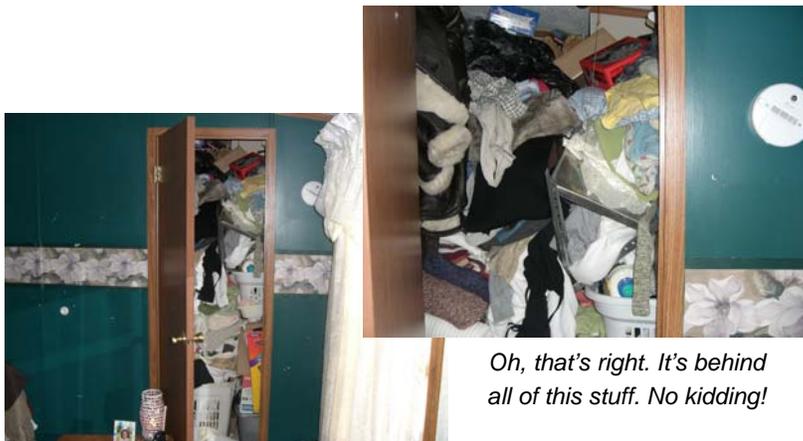
Extreme Photos —Continued



An interesting situation. The space heater vents out the damper hood. Needless to say, it back drafts!



You may not be able to see it, but there are wasp nests in this vent.



Oh, that's right. It's behind all of this stuff. No kidding!

Where DID we put that water heater?



There's actually water in this duct!

Tentative 2007 Program Monitoring Schedule

| | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| October | New View Eastern Iowa |
| November | MICA Operation Threshold |
| December | SCICAP |
| January | Polk County |

Upcoming Events

October 2007

- 9—10 **Advanced Furnace** training to be held at Mid-Iowa Community Action, 1001 S. 18th Avenue, Marshalltown, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov 515-281-3861. Note: Sign-up is only by email.

- 23—24 **Mold/Moisture/Ventilation/BTL** training to be held at Community Action Agency of Siouxland, 2700 Leech Avenue, Sioux City, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov 515-281-3861. Note: Sign-up is only by email.

- 30 **WEATHERIZATION DAY!**

November 2007

- 7—8 **Advanced Blower Door/Zonal Pressure Diagnostics** training to be held at Community Action of Eastern Iowa, 500 E. 59th Street, Davenport, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov 515-281-3861. Note: Sign-up is only by email.

- 20—21 **Combustion Health & Safety** training to be held at Mid-Iowa Community Action, 1001 S. 18th, Marshalltown, Iowa. For more information, contact Marcia Thompson at Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov 515-281-3861. Note: Sign-up is only by email.

December 2007

- 9—12 **2007 National Weatherization Training Conference** to be held in Orlando, Florida. For more information, visit www.cemamerica.com/doeevents/wx2007 .



*** Save the Date ***

ACI Home Performance Conference 2008
 Pittsburgh, PA ~ April 7-11, 2008
www.affordablecomfort.org

| Tentative 2007 Fiscal Monitoring Schedule | |
|--|------------------------------|
| October | HACAP Operation Threshold |
| November | New View |
| December | SIEDA |
| January | SCICAP |

The 2007 Training Schedule is on our website www.weatherization.iowa.gov under **Current Events !**

Speed Bumps

- If an exhaust vent is ducted to the outside and has a proper termination (a termination designed for that purpose), then it is not necessary to replace the ducting or termination. In this case the only time you would need to replace the termination or repair it is if there are problems such as a lot of moisture on the ducting, crushed duct work, or other situations that are restricting the air flow. If a new termination is put on, then the duct work needs to be brought up to the standards.
- Recently in a training, we encountered a furnace that did not have a pilot safety switch. This is not seen much any more but there are furnaces out there just like this one. In most cases they cannot be fixed so, they need to be replaced. Because the furnace does not have a pilot safety switch, after running the blower door, it is extremely important to make sure that the pilot light is still on. If the pilot light is extinguished by the blower door, or for any other reason, the gas for the pilot light continues to flow creating a situation that may lead to an explosion.
- When putting in a furnace for fuel savings the actual steady state efficiency of the existing unit needs to be used in

the audit or the default efficiency needs to be used. In addition, the efficiency of the new replacement unit needs to be used in the audit. If you are replacing the furnace for health and safety reasons, then you should enter it in the audit as optional and replace it even if the audit doesn't call for it. This should allow you to do the other measures on the home without lowering the SIR that mandatory replacement would usually lead to.

- When the return registers of the furnace are located in or by the wall, you need to make sure that insulation is not getting into the duct system.
- Square footage of the home for the NEAT audit and WAMS is the square footage of the conditioned living area. In most cases, this would not include the basement as it usually isn't a lived in area. So, if you have a two-story home, the square footage would be that of both floors.
- Documentation of the combustion appliance zone (CAZ) with reference to (WRT) the outside is required in the file. This is both a baseline and one with all exhaust appliances on.

Please feel free to copy and distribute.

Iowa Bureau of Weatherization

Department of Human Rights
Community Action Agency
Lucas State Office Building, 2nd Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

We're on the Web!!!
www.weatherization.iowa.gov

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