

Save Heating Fuel \$

Marshfield/Plainfield Weatherization Program

Executive Summary

A new home weatherization program is available in Marshfield and Plainfield. It involves Energy Home Visits to help identify fuel/money saving opportunities in your home and provides for low cost (\$100 vrs. the normal \$400) professional energy audits to the first 12 homeowners completing the audits by May 15th. If this sounds interesting, please read the article below.

Article

The Marshfield / Plainfield energy group is again focusing on helping residents save money on heating fuel through weatherization. In 2009 and 2010 we visited about 80 Marshfield and Plainfield homes to help evaluate potential energy savings opportunities and to suggest improvements for homeowners might pursue. We believe several homes got energy audits and made corrections. Weatherization normally provides the quickest return on money spent. We hope the program outlined below will help more homeowners get energy audits and weatherize their homes. We are still developing this program; so it is subject to change. This effort is part of the statewide *Home Energy Challenge* you may have read about.

a) Energy Home Visit

The Energy Committee, trained volunteers and professional energy auditors will provide home visits to assess energy use and identify opportunities to save money through weatherization.

Calculations will be made to identify how heating efficient your home is compared to a fairly tight and fairly well insulated home. This provides a rough screening tool to help identify the potential magnitude of the losses in your home and the potential savings opportunities. Efficiency is normally calculated as BTUs/square foot/year. Descriptions of projects neighbors have completed will also be discussed, as well as what was saved, exactly what an audit provides and the advantages of proceeding with the corrections.

The discussion with the home energy volunteer(s) would also include descriptions of projects neighbors have completed and what was saved, as well as what a professional audit would provide. The advantages of proceeding with the recommended weatherization and efficiency corrections will be discussed.

b) Energy Audit

After the Energy Home Visit, if we believe the money-saving opportunities make it desirable to proceed with a professional energy audit, we will recommend an audit. Audits provide you a professional assessment of your home weatherization needs. The audit report presents cost estimates and

priority for the work and discusses applicable incentives. You should have a well thought out plan before beginning improvements so you work on the projects that result in the quickest returns. You would directly contact one of the auditors listed below for your audit

c) Audit Incentive

If the Energy Committee recommends an audit after the Energy Home Visit you may qualify to pay only \$100 for the audit versus a normal charge of \$300 to \$400. This incentive is provided courtesy of Efficiency Vermont (\$100 rebate) and the three energy auditing/weatherization contractors in our two towns. There are only a limited number of these audits available, so we recommend signing up for your Home Energy Visit today.

To qualify for the \$100 audit:

- The Home Energy Visit must be completed and an audit recommended
- The home must have a heat energy use of over 60,000 BTUs /square foot/year to get the most return from the audit incentives
- Yours must be one of the first 12 audits completed
- The energy audit must be completed by May 15th
- You will need to sign a pledge card that you will perform one or more self-selected projects from changing out incandescent bulbs, to weather stripping to energy audits

d) Please contact Bob Atchinson 479-4326 bobat2@yahoo.com for Plainfield or Rich Phillips for Marshfield 454-7702 krphil@myfairpoint.net to sign up for an Energy Home Visit today. We are sure you want to be in the first 12 to get your \$100 audit.

Note: The local energy auditors/weatherization contractors offering you significant savings on the audits are:

Shelter Construction, Will Fitzpatrick, 272-8107, shelterconstruction@gmail.com

Montpelier Construction, Chris Miksic, 479-1868, chris@montpelierconstruction.com

DuPont Construction and Insulation, Kevin DuPont, 426-3640,

DUPONTCSTR@aol.com