

Dear Friend:



The Mercer County Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is administered by the County Housing and Community Development Office. Funds for the program are provided through grants awarded by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

The goal of WAP is to reduce the residential energy cost of Mercer County's low-income residents. County housing personnel reach this goal by conducting an energy audit to determine the type of energy conservation measures required to increase the thermal efficiency in each home.

If you are interested in participating in WAP, I invite you to contact the Mercer County Office of Housing & Community Development at (609) 989-6858 to determine your eligibility to receive assistance.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Kelvin S. Ganges
Chief of Staff

Andrew A. Mair
County Administrator

Elizabeth Maher Muoio
Director
Economic Development &
Sustainability

Edward M. Pattik, Director
Housing & Community
Development



**MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF
CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**

Ann M. Cannon
Anthony P. Carabelli
John A. Cimino
Pasquale "Pat" Colavita
Samuel T. Frisby
Andrew Koontz
Lucyille R. Walter



Funded in part by the NJ
Department of Community
Affairs and the County of
Mercer

Mercer County



**Weatherization
Assistance Program
WAP**



County of Mercer
Housing & Community Development
640 South Broad Street—Room 420
Trenton, New Jersey 08650
(609) 989-6858 (609) 989-0306 fax
www.mercercounty.org

What is Weatherization?

In the Weatherization Assistance Program, weatherization services are cost-effective energy efficiency measures for existing residential and multi-family housing with low-income residents. Under this definition, it includes a wide variety of energy efficiency measures that encompass the building envelope, its heating and cooling systems, its electrical system, and electricity consuming appliances. In other words, the full range of energy efficiency measures in buildings that apply to all homes and apartment buildings is included in weatherization technologies.

The Weatherization Assistance Program serves low-income families free of charge and limits according to federal rules the amount of money that can be spent on any single residence. As a result, only the most cost-effective measures are included in the upgrade of a particular home. This constant pressure for low-cost energy savings has become the trademark of weatherization and distinguishes it from the larger home retrofit industry.

Another distinguishing feature of weatherization is attention to all-around safety check. Many residences receiving attention are old and in need of repair. Weatherization service providers check major energy systems to ensure occupant safety.

Why is Weatherization Needed?

Weatherization reduces the energy use of existing single-family homes that are not slated for major revitalization or renovation. Because existing housing will likely represent the largest portion of the housing stock for many years to come, the energy deficiencies of existing housing must be addressed if energy improvement goals and mandates are to be accomplished.

Weatherization not only reduces energy use and cost, but it also improves the health of occupants and the environment. Weatherization can reduce health risks from mold, radon, carbon monoxide, combustion by-products, and other contaminants. Additionally, weatherization can reduce noise, eliminate entry points for insects and other pests, and improve building durability by reducing moisture related problems.

The following are energy conservation measures installed to improve the overall energy efficiency of the dwelling:

energy efficient heating system
water heater replacement
hot water blanket
caulking
carbon monoxide detecting

air sealing
fluorescent lighting
weather-stripping
insulation
refrigerator



Charge to the Participant

There is no charge to participants in the Mercer County Weatherization Assistance Program. However, Landlords are required to contribute a dollar for dollar match of County funds. Renters may be eligible.

For additional information call:

(609) 989-6858

or visit

www.mercercounty.org

Who Can Apply?

- Residents of Mercer County
- Both Homeowners and families that rent may apply for energy conservation assistance.
- Persons 60 years of age, individuals who are handicapped and families with young children are given priority consideration.
- Eligible applicants must meet the following gross annual income limits:

Family Size	Annual Household Income
1	\$21,660
2	\$29,140
3	\$36,620
4	\$44,100
5	\$51,580
6	\$59,060
7	\$66,540
8	\$74,020
Each Additional Member	\$ 7,480

Four (4) Basic Steps in the Process

Step 1 Interested persons submit an application to the Mercer County Housing and Community Development Office located at 640 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ. Applications can be obtained by visiting the office or calling (609) 989-6858.

Step 2 Approved applications receive a free home energy audit conducted by the County housing personnel. The home energy audit determines the type of energy conservation measure (s) that are required to reduce the energy cost of each residence.

Step 3 Mercer County employs a contractor to install the energy conservation measures identified during the energy audit.

Step 4 A final inspection is conducted by County housing personnel to insure that all the home improvements have been properly installed.

The contractor is paid by Mercer County.