



MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

City of Glenwood Springs

City of Steamboat Springs

Town of Carbondale

EAGLE COUNTY

Avon
Basalt
Eagle
Gypsum
Minturn
Red Cliff
Vail

GRAND COUNTY

Fraser
Granby
Grand Lake
Hot Sulphur Springs
Kremmling
Winter Park

JACKSON COUNTY

Walden

PITKIN COUNTY

Aspen

SUMMIT COUNTY

Breckenridge
Dillon
Frisco
Montezuma
Silverthorne

First Homes Weatherized Under ARRA

Energy Efficiency Work Ramps Up Across Colorado

Silverthorne, CO, July 8, 2009: The Weatherization Assistance Program is expanding throughout Colorado as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) passed by Congress in February. Aggressive goals have been set statewide to provide services to Coloradans living in 10,000 homes in the next 12 months. The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments is at work assisting the initial round of residents to benefit from the program.

"I am thrilled to see another installation of Recovery funds coming to Colorado, putting people back to work and helping homeowners save money and energy," said Congressman Jared Polis. "Energy efficiency provisions are truly the easiest way to lessen our dependence on fossil fuels and this weatherization program will benefit working families both economically and environmentally. I applaud the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments for expanding this program in our communities and helping to get our economy moving again."

Over the last 33 years the Weatherization Assistance Program has helped homeowners with serious weatherization-related problems: Windows sealed by duct tape, 100-year-old homes with no insulation, furnaces emitting carbon monoxide into living spaces and clients who have had to choose between heat and food. The most-troubled homes will still receive services, but the program has been broadened to include far more residents who could also benefit from these services. The enhanced program includes higher federal poverty level guidelines, which now accept an income of \$44,100 for a family of four. With more eligible residents, and greater funding for the program, many local agencies are more than doubling their production creating more job opportunities and bringing energy and cost savings to more residents, while saving energy consumption for everyone.

"Too many Coloradans, including low-income seniors, find themselves having to choose between buying food and adequately heating their homes in the winter – a dire problem that is even more serious in tough economic times like these," Senator Udall said. "So I'm very pleased that we've been able to put weatherization funding in the Recovery Act to work in Colorado. This funding will not only enable thousands of Coloradans to lower their heating bills, it will save fossil fuels and create good jobs at the same time."

Weatherization enables low- to moderate-income families to permanently reduce their heating bills by an average of 32% and overall energy bills by hundreds of dollars per year by making their homes more efficient. Weatherization begins with an audit of a residential property, including health and safety issues such as mold, gas leaks and carbon monoxide problems. Energy efficiency needs are then addressed by such means as adding or improving insulation, storm windows, caulking, weather stripping, and, in some cases, installing new energy-efficient furnaces and refrigerators. NWCCOG will serve 450-500 Colorado families this year.

For more information call NWCCOG at 1-800-332-3669 or visit www.nwc.cog.co.us.