

## Weatherization and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

In March 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy announced that it was investing \$8 billion into weatherization and state energy grants. \$5 billion of that is going directly to the existing Weatherization Assistance Program.

If your income falls at or below 200% of the federal poverty level you may qualify for this assistance. Here's a breakdown of current federal poverty guidelines per household size.

Size of Family	Poverty Guideline
1	\$21,660
2	\$29,140
3	\$36,620
4	\$44,100
5	\$51,580
6	\$59,060
7	\$66,540
8	\$74,020

For more than eight (8), add \$7,480 for each additional member.

The 200% of poverty income guidelines represent an increase from the previous 150% of poverty cap. This increase in potential clientele is likely to result in long waiting lists and there may be a limit to the number of households that will receive the assistance because of available funding. In Ohio the program is administered by the Ohio Department of Development.

If you qualify, trained professionals will come to your home to assess and make recommendations regarding the overall need for performance upgrades to heating cooling and ventilating (HVAC) appliances as well as to the building shell.

As provided in the federal regulations, Ohio's Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) is carried out by community action agencies and other public and nonprofit entities. Here is a list of Appalachian Ohio Counties and another list of the service areas and weatherization providers for the HWAP for each. Contact the HWAP in your service area for weatherization assistance.

### **Appalachian Ohio Region Counties;**

Adams, Ashtabula, Athens, Belmont, Brown, Carroll, Clermont, Columbiana, Coshocton, Gallia, Guernsey, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Mahoning, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Vinton, and Washington