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Keep your cool with free weatherization services

Energy-efficiency measures can help reduce cooling costs in summer months

Aurora, Colo. – As temperatures soar to record-highs along the Front Range, it's the perfect time to think about taking steps to keep your home cooler and reducing your household energy usage.

The Arapahoe County Weatherization Division, in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office, offers free services to low-income households in both Arapahoe and Adams Counties to help to make homes more energy-efficient and comfortable in all seasons.

"We often relate weatherization to the winter months," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Bill Holen. "Energy-efficiency measures make significant difference in the summertime by keeping the heat outside and maintaining your home at a more consistent, comfortable temperature."

Qualified weatherization crews will start by conducting a free home energy audit to determine what energy conservation services would be most beneficial in your home. Services may include sealing major air leaks; adding eco-friendly insulation to attics, walls and crawl spaces; performing health and safety tests on furnaces and water heaters; making necessary repairs to furnaces and water heaters; and installing high-efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs, all at no cost.

Weatherization services are available year-round to households earning 200 percent or less of the federal poverty guideline, which is \$3,841 gross per month for a family of four. You may rent or own. Services are available in single-family homes, mobile homes and multi-family units up to a four-plex. Arapahoe County weatherization crews served 1,273 households in 2011.

Funding for weatherization services is provided by the Colorado Energy Office and the U.S. Department of Energy Denver Regional Office. To learn more and apply for weatherization services in Arapahoe or Adams County, please contact the Weatherization Division at 303-636-1982 or visit www.co.arapahoe.co.us and click on "Services," then "Weatherization."

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To download photos, click the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Photos/WX/WxSealing.jpeg>: Arapahoe County Weatherization Supervisor Chuck Temple conducts a blower door test to measure the amount of air leaks in an Aurora home.

WxTech.jpeg: Arapahoe County Weatherization Furnace Technician Jonathan Chaddic applies duct sealant to reduce air leakage from the HVAC system of an Aurora home.