# Weatherization Assistance Program

### Overview

- The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), Division of Climate, Coastal, and Energy offers a free Weatherization Assistance Program, which helps establish comfortable, energy-saving homes.
- The Weatherization Assistance Program helps homeowners and renters cut energy bills by weatherproofing and improving the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Although this program is not specifically intended to assist with flooding prevention, some of the weatherization improvements can also help to reduce flood risk.
- Eligibility for the program is determined by household size and income.
- Professionals from the Weatherization Assistance Program first assess the home, then the program provides energy-saving measures free of charge.
- The Weatherization Assistance Program cuts energy bills by 30 to 50 percent.
- Energy-saving measures implemented by the Weatherization Assistance Program can include measures such as (but not limited to) the following:
  - Air sealing, caulking, glazing, weatherstripping and crack patching
  - Replacement of broken glass
  - $\circ~$  Attic, wall and floor insulation
  - $\circ\;$  Attic, wall and floor ventilation
  - Sealing heating and cooling ducts
  - $\circ~$  Insulation for hot water heaters
  - $\circ~$  Insulation for hot and cold water pipes
  - Moving appliances and utility equipment from the basement to the ground floor



## **Key Takeaways**

During extreme cold, extreme heat, and flood events, the health, safety, and finances of Delawareans may be at risk. Having a weatherized home will help to reduce these risks.

Many Delawarean families are unable to afford weatherizing their homes.

In order to better prepare for emergency conditions, contact DNREC's Weatherization Assistance Program to see if your home qualifies for free weatherization.





## **Estimated Costs/Benefits**

\*U.S. dollars (2022), estimates are subject to change

Potential Costs		Potential Benefits	
ltem	Estimate	ltem	Estimate
Weatherization Assistance Program assistance	\$0	Energy bill during extreme high and low temperatures	30-50% reduction in energy bills
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	\$0	ESTIMATED TOTAL SAVINGS	30-50% reduction in energy bills

## Additional Resources

- o Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS)
- Delaware Homeowner Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards
- o DNREC's Weatherization Assistance Program
- o Energy Coordinating Agency

#### Resources can also be found at <u>https://de.gov/iadapt</u>

## **Additional Actions**

- Sign up for the Delaware Emergency Notification Systems (DENS).
- Implement other recommended flooding adaptation strategies.

## **Permitting Agencies**

• No permits are required.

## **Expected Maintenance**

- Perform a heating system maintenance check at least once per year. The Weatherization Assistance Program can cover one heating system maintenance check.
- Perform any recommended annual and/or seasonal maintenance on the structure.

## Who to Contact

- <u>DNREC's Weatherization Assistance</u> <u>Program</u>
- Energy Coordinating Agency

Technical definitions and more information are located on the I-ADAPT website: https://de.gov/iadapt.

This information is intended to be used for planning purposes. It is not intended to substitute or take precedence over the guidance of design engineers, contractors, utility companies or regulatory agencies.



For more information, contact DNREC's Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy at DNREC\_IADAPT@Delaware.gov