

Looking Forward

- DNREC starts PY 2020 with an expected budget of \$1.5 million to support weatherization in New Castle County; additional funds will become available to support weatherization work by a new subgrantee in Kent and Sussex Counties
- Program goals for PY 2020 include:
 - Recruit and develop capabilities of a new subgrantee for Kent and Sussex Counties (request for proposals issued March 2020)
 - Subgrantee for New Castle County to continue focus on City of Wilmington
 - Weatherize at least 200 low-income Delaware homes
 - Engage in detailed client survey to build on highly positive 2019 client satisfaction results
 - Use detailed energy savings verification results from 2019 as input to continuous program improvement
- Training will continue to be a high priority:
 - Training for all WAP staff to remain state-of-the-art, including heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, radon, and required software
 - New subgrantee training in intake, software, audit, and crew procedures and protocols
 - Continue *Tool Box Talks* by the State Program Monitor with a focus on work quality
- Design and distribute new marketing materials
- Enhance networks in real estate management, landlord associations, and mobile home parks
- Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) training and new COVID-19 protocols communicated to the subgrantee and contractors

Spotlight: Follow-up on Savings

WAP conducted a training session on manufactured homes for all technical staff in October 2018 at a mobile home park in New Castle County, Delaware. One of the homes was occupied by a low-income couple, one of whom was disabled and in poor health. Their 1970 manufactured home was very drafty. The couple could not afford oil through the winter, and they were very uncomfortable.

The homeowners relied on electric space heaters and had not used the oil system in 4 years. During the energy audit, it was discovered that the ductwork and heating registers were so leaky that it was actually warmer under the house than inside the house in the winter.

Weatherization improvements included sealing the open ductwork beneath the home, sealing the ducts at the registers inside the home, insulation in the attic and walls, repairing the belly liner, and insulating the belly.

We followed up with the homeowner to find out how much he had saved. He reported:

My home is so much warmer in the winter and it stays much cooler in the summer. My electric bill has reduced by two-thirds! When I first moved into the home, I was paying \$200 per month for oil and I couldn't afford it, so I started using electric space heaters. Now I pay \$300 at the beginning of the winter and don't have to fill the tank again. The comfort in my home has gone up 100% and I am so appreciative of all that Weatherization has done for me.

That is a decrease in his winter electric bills of 66%. Some of that electricity was replacing the oil heat, which had gotten too expensive. He went from four oil deliveries per winter to one at the start of the winter that lasted through the season. Lower costs, improved comfort – just what WAP works for every day.



Caulking under a manufactured home.

Contact Us

Visit de.gov/wap

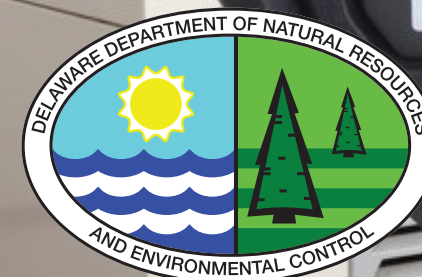
State of Delaware
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Division of Climate, Coastal & Energy

To apply for WAP in New Castle County, call Energy Coordinating Agency at 302-504-6111.

To apply for WAP in Kent County or Sussex County, call DNREC at 302-735-3480.

Weatherization Assistance Program

Annual Report
Program Year 2019
April 2019 – March 2020



What is WAP?

Delaware's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides services at no cost to qualified low-income Delaware families to reduce energy costs. Typical services include air-sealing, insulation, heating system repair, lighting upgrades, and minor health-and-safety repairs that are necessary to complete energy-saving measures.

WAP began more than forty years ago with minor services like caulking and weather-stripping. Now, WAP services are provided by highly trained contractors and are guided by sophisticated diagnostics, including blower-door testing, mechanical ventilation strategies, and combustion analysis. Those diagnostics, typically completed before and after home weatherization, ensure that energy-saving measures are cost-effective.

More important are the energy savings and other benefits that low-income Delawareans gain from these services. WAP provides long-term savings for Delaware's vulnerable households. Those savings are estimated by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to be \$437 per home per year. Energy improvements also can reduce asthma triggers and improve health and safety. Those benefits help low-income families by reducing medical expenses, lost-work days for parents, and out-of-school days for children.

State Technical Monitor leads health and safety training for Delaware weatherization workers on how to plug a double-walled flue properly.

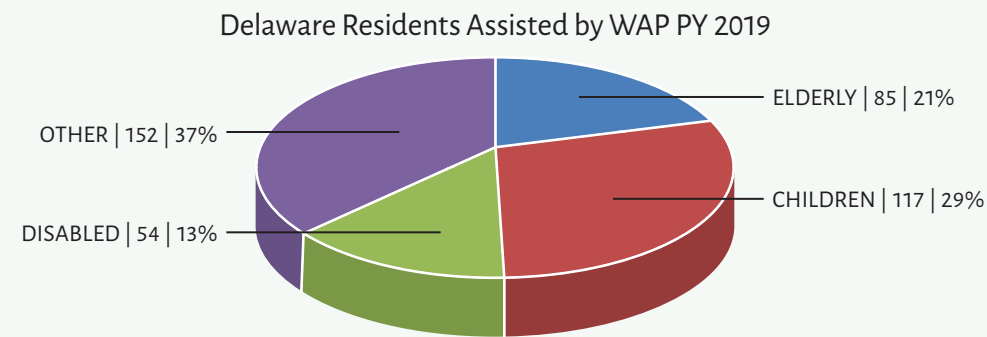


Who is Served?

WAP serves low-income Delaware residents, defined as those with annual incomes verified at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. WAP serves all types of housing including detached or attached single-family, mobile or manufactured homes, and small multifamily buildings. Services are available to owners and renters, provided the building owner consents and the benefits of weatherization go to low-income residents. Pre-WAP, a program to assist with building repairs that are necessary prior to weatherization, is administered by the Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility. Since its launch in 2016, Pre-WAP has provided essential repairs to 343 homes.

In Program Year (PY) 2019, there were sufficient resources to serve all eligible households, and there was only a relatively short waiting list of eligible households. Prioritization of the waitlist is based on need, as well as age (young and elderly), and special needs of residents.

In PY 2019, WAP served 195 households with a total of 401 Delaware residents and estimated savings of 2380 MMBtu.

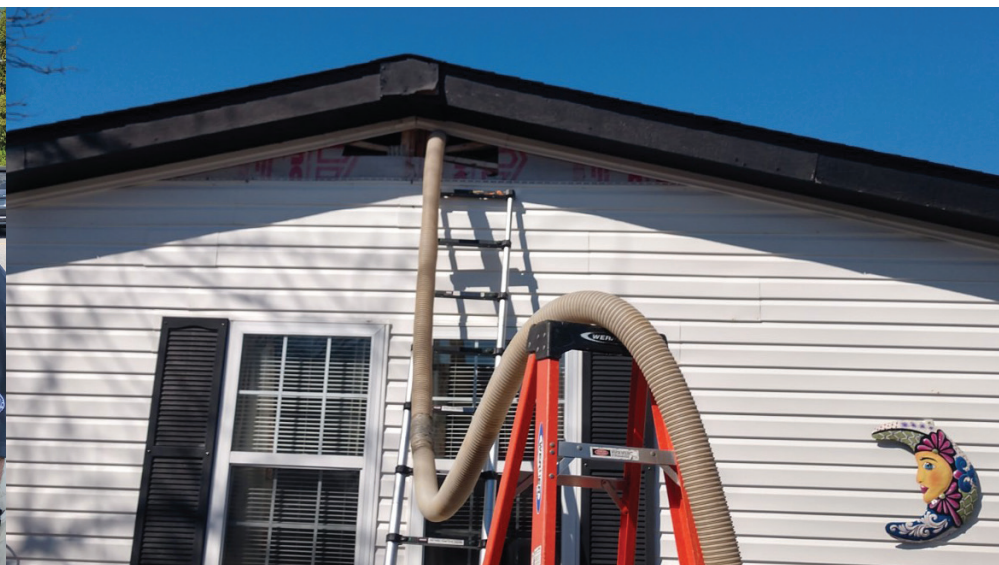


Numbers sum to more than 401 because some individuals are disabled and elderly or children.

Weatherization has been a blessing. My electric bill used to be in the hundreds and now it is around \$68 per month. My home is warm in the winter and in the summer, the cool air stays in my home. I have told my friends and family about Weatherization. I even posted on Facebook and people asked me how to apply.

—WAP Client, City of Seaford

Insulation blowing hose set-up for attic.



Sources and Uses of WAP Funds

Delaware WAP is funded by four sources:

- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
- Ratepayer Utility (Delmarva Power)

The diversity of funding sources allows the program to do more in each home and greatly leverages the base grant funding from DOE. Funds from Delmarva Power go exclusively to Direct Labor and Materials (the installed cost of measures in homes). DOE, LIHEAP, and RGGI allocations also support Direct Labor and Materials as well as other program costs that include:

- Program Operations: program marketing and outreach, initial home energy audit, computer modeling, post-weatherization inspection, transportation to home sites, diagnostic equipment, software for program operations and energy modeling, personal protective equipment
- Training: training and certification of DNREC staff, subgrantee staff, and contractor staff
- Savings Verification: independent review of program energy savings
- Administration: grantee management, subgrantee management, quality control and assurance, insurance, reporting

The sources and uses of WAP funds for PY 2019 are:

Sources of Funds

DOE (57 units completed)	\$ 652,328
LIHEAP (96 units completed)	\$ 790,639
RGGI (13 units completed)	\$ 784,788
Delmarva Power (29 units completed)	\$ 235,030
Total	\$ 2,462,785

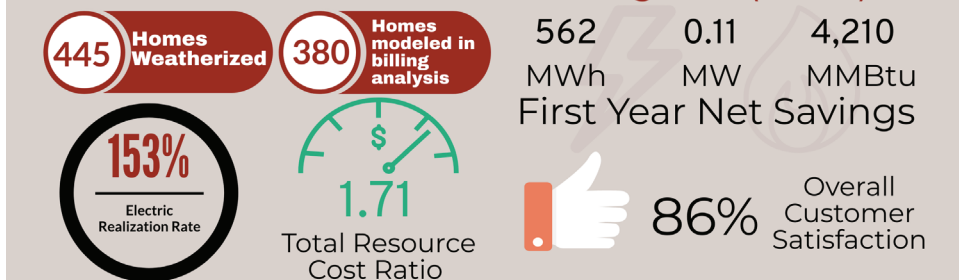
Uses of Funds

Direct Labor and Materials	\$ 1,249,721
Program Operations	\$ 549,483
Training	\$ 123,250
Savings Verification	\$ 21,401
Administration	\$ 518,930
Total	\$ 2,462,785

Program Year 2019 Highlights

- The Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA), which serves New Castle County, has been very successful increasing production in the City of Wilmington, with 100% increase in homes weatherized in PY 2019.
- WAP provided many training sessions to auditors, crew, inspectors, and intake staff. Examples include:
 - A three-day training on crawl spaces
 - National Home Performance Coalition Conference in Chicago
 - Re-certifications for Renovate/Repair/Paint and Health & Safety
 - Week-long training on Hancock/HEAT software
 - On-site retrofit installer training
- The Program underwent a site monitoring by the U.S. Department of Energy and the outcome was outstanding.
- DNREC conducted administrative and technical review of both subgrantee organizations, which included onsite monitoring of 10% of DOE units completed.
- Working together, DNREC and ECA boosted client intake by 100% in New Castle County. Outreach included letters sent directly to eligible low-income homes in the City of Wilmington and work with local Food Banks, senior centers, and the Meals-on-Wheels program.
- Independent verification of WAP results for 445 units completed 2016-18 was conducted by EcoMetric Consulting, which summarized its findings in the graphic at right.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)



From
"Program Years 2016-2018 Evaluation Report"
by EcoMetric Consulting.