

The Weatherization *PLUS* Newsletter

Economic Opportunity Studies, Inc. | www.weatherizationplus.org

Top Stories

EPA Renovator Certification for Many Agencies and Workers Needed by April 22



What's your program's status?

Take NCAF's survey on EPA 'firm' certification

The National Community Action Foundation (NCAF) has alerted Community Action Agencies to confusing EPA guidance about which subgrantees need to be EPA-certified firms (as of new April 8 posting, probably only those with crews or specific addresses set out in their state contracts). Proper status and renovator certification for at least one worker in any pre-1978 home are mandatory on Wednesday, April 22. Fines are \$37,000 per day. Many are ready, but many more have pending applications or are waiting for training. NCAF has posted a survey to bolster its case for delaying enforcement to DOE and EPA. If your agency has not yet participated, please fill out the survey by 2PM EDT on Wednesday, April 15.

EPA Lead Certification Fact Sheet

Steps to becoming a Lead-Safe Certified Firm

DOE Releases New Guidance on Landlord Requirements for Buildings on the HUD/DOE List

DOE has posted supplemental guidance on how to implement the new rule on weatherizing multifamily buildings listed by HUD and USDA. (Click here to see the lists.) At issue: how to guarantee the benefits of W.A.P. investments go to tenants who pay no out of pocket energy costs. This W.A.P. requirement has not

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*Praise from DOE
Assistant Secretary,
Cathy Zoi!*

Get W.A.P. in Forefront on Earth Day: April 22

We think Earth Day would be a great opportunity for the W.A.P. network to tout its environmental impact. Consider issuing a press release or holding an event that highlights the energy savings

changed, but it also has not been clearly defined. Now there are "project" buildings on the new list, buildings where rents are capped at a percent of income, and energy is included in the rent. Therefore, there is a need for clarity about the way the owner, even a government or non-profit owner, must translate the savings into direct benefits to the tenant that can be measured and verified. [It is not/never has been sufficient to assert the building will be a healthier place in general, or that the PHA will have more funds to pursue unspecified public purposes unrelated to the same eligible tenants.]

[Click here to see the guidance.](#)

[**New Tools for W.A.P. on the EOS Website**](#)

[**What We Can Learn from Wisconsin's Rapid W.A.P. Expansions in 2000 and 2005**](#)

The expansion of the Weatherization Assistance Program with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds has created new challenges for the network and a need for helpful information from states that have accomplished similar rapid expansion. Wisconsin experienced two significant periods of rapid growth on a scale similar to ARRA. This [**EOS report**](#) describes the new management practices and operational changes that allowed the Wisconsin program to meet the major challenges of a dramatically expanded program, including:

- Recruiting the appropriate workforce,
- Upgrading the training structure,
- Managing more contractors effectively, and
- Expanding the pool of qualified applicants.

[**Find out what your program can learn from Wisconsin's experience.**](#)

[**Property Assessed Clean Energy \(P.A.C.E.\) Bonds and Weatherization**](#)

The Property Assessed Clean Energy (P.A.C.E.) program is an innovative financing tool that allows local governments to provide attractive low-interest loans to property owners for clean energy and efficiency investments. [**Click here to learn why P.A.C.E. bonds are important to Weatherizers.**](#)

[**An In-Depth Look at Utility-W.A.P. Partnerships in PA and CA**](#)

Two utility-W.A.P. partnerships that deserve closer attention are LIURP and LIEE in Pennsylvania and California respectively. These two EOS studies detail the ways in which funds from utility partnerships can contribute to lowering energy bills and reducing

Weatherization creates (perhaps with displays of specialized W.A.P. tools like blower doors, insulation blowers, testing devices). [**Here's some information to get you started.**](#)

Did you know that weatherizing a million homes has the same CO2 impact as planting enough trees to cover the state of Connecticut?



Does your agency have any materials from past Earth Day themed outreach? [Please share with us!](#)

[**The Efficiency Sector's Education and Training: Where It Stands Today and Where It's Headed Tomorrow**](#)

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory produced this detailed analysis of the current state of training in the Energy Efficiency Services Sector (EESS). Included in the report are valuable insights into the projected future of the sector and its training needs. [**Click here to read the report.**](#)

Are you or a colleague a new W.A.P. worker or contractor? Tell us [YOUR W.A.P story at our survey page**](#), and we will build a national network of successful W.A.P. recruits.**

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[**Our Project Staff:**](#)
Meg Power - Project Manager
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energy consumption.

- [Pennsylvania's Low-Income Usage Reduction Program \(LIURP\)](#)
- [California's Low-Income Energy Efficiency \(LIEE\) Program](#)

PLUS: Updated Index of W.A.P. PLUS Utility Programs

We have updated our index of Weatherization PLUS programs that leverage utility funds. These tables include detailed information about the structure, measures, eligibility, funding, and results of almost 100 utility-W.A.P. partnerships. We know you're busy trying to spend the large influx of ARRA funds, but now is a good time to start communicating with your utilities about setting up a program like one of these listed, for the sake of continued W.A.P. effectiveness beyond the ARRA period. [Click here to see the Index.](#)

Opportunity:

Defining "Green Jobs"
The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is seeking public comment on the definitions and categories it plans to use to collect data on the number, occupational, industrial, and geographic distribution of GREEN JOBS. [Click here to be heard.](#)



Montana Weatherization Training Center Posts First Episode of Weatherization TV (WXTV)

The [Montana Weatherization Training Center](#) has posted on its website the first episode in a web video series called "WXTV." The show will feature demonstrations of cutting edge techniques, discussions with experts, advice on innovative devices and materials, and help for training "green collar" workers. Sponsorship

for the program came from a grant awarded by the partnership of the National Community Action Foundation (NCAF) and Exxon-Mobil.

[Click here to see "Episode 1: The World of Weatherization"](#)

The Newsletter of Economic Opportunity Studies' Weatherization *PLUS* Leveraging Partnership Project brings timely information about developments that expand the Weatherization Assistance Program to help your organization take advantage of emerging opportunities. Visit the [Weatherization PLUS portal](#) for more information.

Why You Are Receiving This Email

Your name is on a list of federal and state Weatherization Program contacts from WAP conference attendance records. Of course, you may unsubscribe (see below). However, we hope you will help us add the names and addresses of all who may be interested. Our promise: 1) We do not share our list, and, 2) The newsletter will be sent only when there is useful material for weatherizers.

Specific questions? Opinions? Subjects we should cover in the future? Email us at:

energy_leveraging_news@opportunitystudies.org

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