



# **Building Science** and Weatherization

WE ARE MASS SAVE®:













# We look forward to hearing from you

Please put all your questions into the questions section with this icon.









BUILDING SCIENCE 101 WEATHERIZATION FUNDAMENTALS WHY WEATHERIZE? HOW TO SELL WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM PATHWAYS STATEWIDE WEATHERIZATION INITIATIVE

### **Building Science 101**



### **Control Heat**

**R-Value:** A measure of thermal resistance, which is used to calculate the ability of a material to slow down heat transfer (Conduction)

• A higher number is better

**U-Factor:** The rate of thermal transmittance through an assembly.

• A lower is better

**Thermal Boundary:** A thermal boundary is defining what space is being conditioned vs. unconditioned. All buildings *should* have a thermal boundary.



Ted Blowe 2022. Oil, Gas, and Energy "Modeling a basic heat transfer process" GoldSim Model Library

### **Control Airflow**



# Image Source: Okanagan College Centre of Excellence ADJUSTABLE LOUVERS MAXIMIZE UTILIZATION In Sustainable Building Technologies OF PRIMARIEY NORTH-SOUTH WINDS and Renewable Energy Conservation, 2010 INCOMING FRESH AIR COOLED SLAB AID TRATION OF ERES

### **Infiltration:**

Movement of air into a building

### **Exfiltration**:

Leakage of conditioned air out of a building

(The difference is determined by pressure or temperature differences)

### Stack Effect:

Drives airflow through buildings

# An analogy on air sealing and insulation



Insulation is a sweater for your building



Air Sealing is like a wind breaker for your building



Both equal comfort and savings

# Weatherization Fundamentals

**Different Material Types** 

### Foams

**Open Cell** – water-based blowing agent

- Less dense (spongy) with "open cells"
- Allows moisture to migrate through but not air
- Great for air sealing

**Closed Cell** – can utilize different blowing agents

- Takes about 3x as many chemicals to make closed-cell vs. open-cell
- More plastic in the mixture
- Is an air, vapor, and thermal barrier in one product

Open Cell: 2024 Ecofoam of Florida







Closed Cell: Permission from Mark Tajima B. Alpha Construction

### **Non-foam Insulation Types**



#### Rockwool

Great for higher moisture or heat applications

Can be blown or batt or rigid board



#### **Wood Fiber**

Environmentally friendly re-used waste product from the lumber industry

Can be blown, batt, or rigid board

#### **Fiberglass**

Common in new construction. Can be blown or batt



#### Cellulose

Recycled material with low carbon impact Can be blown or sprayed







#### Primarily done with caulking or foams.

Reduces infiltration or exfiltration aka "drafts"



# Why Weatherize?

**Cost Savings** 

**Increased Comfort** 

**Environmental Responsibility** 

**Financial Incentives** 

Resilience for your Building

**Carbon Free Preparation** 

**Increase Asset Value and Marketability** 

**Benchmarking Status** 

Measure Life

# **Selling Weatherization**







#### BMS and DCV

 Control indoor air quality with air sealing as well as demand control ventilation

#### **Mechanical Insulation**

• Control thermal energy with mechanical insulation as well

#### Electrification

 Save money by weatherizing your building before heat pump design

# **Selling Weatherization Continued**





Electrification and Resiliency

IAQ

# **Selling** weatherization continued:



### **Know your customer**

What Motivates Them?

- Cost
- Comfort
- Decarbonization goals

### Major fuels consumption by principal building activity and end use, 2018 percentage





Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey* Q = Data withheld because the relative standard error was greater than 50% or the reporting sample had fewer than 20 buildings. Water heating, computing, and other end uses were withheld for food sales buildings. Water heating and cooking were withheld for vacant buildings.

#### REAL EUI VS NET ZERO NC EUI BY BUILDING SQFT

 Energy intensity for sum of major fuels (thousand Btu/square foot) Net Zero Level EUI Targets



Source: <a href="http://www.eia.gov/cbecs">www.eia.gov/cbecs</a>

# **Program Pathways are based on building size**







Prescriptive 0 - 8,000 sq/ft Custom Express 8,001 – 100,000 sq/ft Custom 100,000 sq/ft + &

All ventilation loaddriven buildings



### Mass Save Weatherization Evolution

### Weatherization Pre-2022

- Custom energy savings review for all projects
- Multiple site visits
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- Unpredictable incentives

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### Weatherization Now ('22 onward)

- New prescriptive weatherization rebate process for small buildings
- Savings calculator tools to help for larger buildings
- Days-long process, or instant
- Fixed incentives for prescriptive projects
- Significantly higher incentives
  overall



### The Sponsors of Mass Save have meaningfully increased Weatherization incentives in recent years

Percentage of Installed Cost Covered by Incentive\*



\*Actual costs and incentives vary, approximate values only

# **Contractors and customers have responded** to the new Weatherization Pathways

Mass Save Incentivized Weatherization Projects by Year



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### Looking ahead: Mass Save Weatherization in 2024



- Overall higher incentives
- New prescriptive incentives for weatherstripping and basement insulation
- Single vendor calculator tool, guiding through the process
- Weatherization Initiative
- Trainings for contractors and weatherization vendors

# **2024 Mass Save Weatherization Initiative**



#### For buildings between 20,000 and 100,000 sq/ft

Submit a proposal, incentive amount request, and required custom express documents

#### **Projects get scored on various metrics**

Cost effectiveness, incentive amount requested, scope, creativity

#### 5 Project Categories with 2 winners in each

Sloped Roof or Stick Framed, Masonry or Metal, Electrification, Landlord / Tenant, Other

#### Incentive awards provided in April 2024

Second round to commence in April 2024

#### Get awarded incentives for cost effective projects

All incentive contributions require pre-approval by the Mass Save Sponsors. Some incentive contributions may be approved on a contingent basis, pending budget availability of the Sponsor.

Reach out to Weatherization-MA@DNV.com for further questions.

# **Small Business Program Sponsor Contacts**



#### **Berkshire Gas**

#### Liberty

Andrew Christofor AChristofor@Uinet.com Matthew Caffrey Matthew.Caffrey@LibertyUtilities.com

#### **Cape Light Compact**

#### **National Grid**

Lindsay Henderson LHenderson@capelightcompact.org Greg Krantz Gregory.Krantz@NationalGrid.com

#### **Eversource**

Mark Toussaint Mark.Toussaint@Eversource.com

#### Unitil

Joe Van Gombos VanGombosJ@Unitil.com



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