

OMU WEATHERIZATION PROJECT

MISSION STATEMENT

This initiative allows OMU to help weatherize homes for Osage's low-income, elderly, and disabled families and others needing assistance in our community. This weatherization project will help to insure that some of the most vulnerable customers served by our utility are better protected from weather extremes and high energy costs.

ELIGIBILITY

Customer eligibility for the Weatherization Project will be determined by the following criteria:

- Income
- Disability
- Elderly

Acceptance for annual LIHEAP assistance through North Iowa Community Action Organization will satisfy the income eligibility criteria.

Customers who have met the above eligibility requirements will be contacted to complete an application to receive a free energy audit of their home. If the audit determines that their home is in need of weatherization and meets safety requirements, OMU will provide the customer with appropriate energy saving solutions, such as these listed below.

PROCESS

First Step:

Conduct an energy audit that includes identifying safety concerns, air infiltration/exfiltration conditions and other miscellaneous sources of energy loss. A primary goal of the energy audit is to identify unsafe conditions and then take corrective action.

Corrective measures may include application of the following:

- Programmable thermostats
- Wrap windows
- Caulk
- Weather stripping
- Sill plate insulation
- Water heater jackets
- Outlet insulators
- Low-flow shower heads
- Faucet aerators
- Seal all outside utility service entry points
- Foam cracks
- Furnace filters
- Lighting – compact fluorescent bulbs

CUSTOMER EDUCATION

Our intent at Osage Municipal Utilities is to bring a new, practical awareness of energy saving ideas to homeowners of our community, especially those who can least afford to be using energy inefficiently. We plan teaching homeowners about ways to save on energy costs and will provide hands-on training and educational materials on home comfort, safety, and energy efficiency.

PROGRAM INCENTIVE

Each qualifying customer may apply for as much as \$500 toward the repair or replacement of a furnace or water heater and the purchase of various products used to reduce energy consumption. Water heater jackets, low-flow shower heads, faucet aerators and outlet insulators are provided without charge.