

**Low-Income**  
**Residential Weatherization Plus Program**  
**November 2011**

Since 1982, Cowlitz PUD has been helping its customers reduce their monthly electric bills and make their homes more comfortable through our weatherization programs. Our current ***Low-Income Residential Weatherization Plus Program***, may be able to pay a substantial portion of the cost to replace inefficient windows\* and/or insulate your eligible site-built, electrically-heated single family residence, rental home, duplex or multi-family building. This program has generous incentives available for the owners of residences occupied by families designated as "low income" by CAP (Lower Columbia Community Action Council).

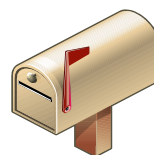
<u>Measure</u>	<u>Low-Income Program Incentives</u>
Attic, Floor, Wall and/or Knee Wall Insulation	\$ 1.00/sq. ft.
Replacement Windows (owner-occupied)*	\$20.00/sq. ft.
Replacement Windows (tenant-occupied)*	\$15.00/sq. ft.

\*For both single-family and multi-family housing, existing single-pane windows, single-pane windows with storm windows, and metal or wood frame double-pane windows are eligible for replacement window incentives if all other criteria is met. **Attic must have a minimum of R-19 insulation existing to be eligible for window incentives.**

- To determine eligibility for low income status and participation in the PUD's low-income residential insulation and replacement window program, the home's occupant(s) **must call CAP at 360-425-3430 ext. 226 or 228** to request a financial review appointment and a **"low income referral"** for Cowlitz PUD's **Weatherization Program**.
- Cowlitz PUD's Conservation Department staff will notify the home's legal owner when the low-income referral is received from CAP, and will provide information about the program and the list of pre-qualified contractors authorized to do weatherization projects that qualify for incentives. Only the home's occupant(s) may qualify for the low-income status, and only the home's legal owner or documented representative may authorize any weatherization measures.
- For low-income funded projects, a minimum of **two bids** are required from PUD-Qualified contractors on the following list. **Only bids from the pre-qualified contractors are acceptable.**
- The low-income referral remains in effect and on file with Cowlitz PUD for 12 months, provided the home continues to be occupied by the same qualified low-income tenant.
- When the home's legal owner or representative has at least two bids in hand, **phone the Cowlitz PUD Conservation Department at 360-577-7514 to schedule a bid review appointment.** At this appointment, the owner will select the bid of choice, learn how much of the cost will be covered by the PUD program, the owner's responsibility, and, if they wish to go forward, sign documents authorizing the weatherization work.
- To determine eligibility of your residence, or if you have any questions, please phone the Cowlitz PUD Conservation Department at 360-577-7514.



Cowlitz PUD  
 Conservation Department  
 360-577-7514 or  
 1-800-631-1131



Cowlitz PUD  
 Conservation Department  
 P.O. Box 3007  
 961 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Longview, WA 98632

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**PUD-Qualified Contractor List**

**Only the independent contractors on the following list** are currently approved by the PUD to perform weatherization measures under the Residential Weatherization Plus Program. These contractors have agreed to comply with our installation and material standards and specifications.

**Financial incentives are only available for PUD-preauthorized weatherization measures installed by these approved contractors.**

To assure that program standards and specifications are met, all weatherization work done by these contractors under this program must be inspected by the PUD.

We cannot be held responsible for contractor-caused damages or work done beyond the scope of the weatherization specifications, nor for any lien(s) placed on your property by your contractor's supplier(s).

The participating contractors are listed on the following page. Cowlitz PUD does not specifically endorse or recommend any one contractor over another on the list or any one product over another. It should be understood that the contractor selected is the *homeowner's* contractor, and the work performed is for the homeowner. The PUD merely acts as an agent for the incentive funds provided to the contractor, as long as your contractor performs the work in accordance with program specifications. However, if you have problems with your contractor, we are available to help resolve the situation.

Please do not request bids from these contractors unless you intend to proceed in a timely manner. Out-of-date bid proposals cannot be accepted.

You may wish to consider contacting a Lead-Safe Certified contractor in the event your home was built prior to 1978.

**COWLITZ COUNTY PUD  
RESIDENTIAL WEATHERIZATION PLUS PROGRAM**

**PUD-Qualified Contractor List  
November 2011**

**Insulation and Air Sealing Only:**

**Gale Contractor Services**  
1900 W. 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite B-207  
Vancouver, WA 98660  
(360) 694-3030 (Vancouver)

**Insulation, Air Sealing and Replacement Windows:**

**Ashby Builders, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 1870  
Castle Rock, WA 98611  
(360) 274-4061

**Rister Insulation**  
P.O. Box 371  
Castle Rock, WA 98611  
(360) 274-5361

**Replacement Windows Only:**

**American Windows & Doors, Inc.**  
1819 Schurman Way, Suite 102  
Woodland, WA 98674  
(360) 225-9997

**America's First Choice, Inc.**  
14413 N.E. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue #C102  
Vancouver, WA 98685  
(360) 546-1175

**Aspen Ridge Construction, Inc./Aspen Exteriors**  
7910 SW Hunziker Street  
Tigard, OR 97223  
(503) 624-9060

**Daystar Windows & Doors, Inc.**  
1206 N.E. 146<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite D  
Vancouver, WA 98685  
(888) 344-8008 (toll-free)

**Erickson Glass Co.**  
1053 Third Avenue  
Longview, WA 98632  
(360) 423-7360

**JR Johnson, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 17196  
Portland, OR 97217  
(503) 240-3388

**Precision Northwest, Inc.**  
12403 N.E. 60<sup>th</sup> Way #D1  
Vancouver, WA 98682  
(360) 566-8455

**Twin City Glass Co., Inc.**  
916 Vandercook Way  
Longview, WA 98632  
(360) 425-4540

## Buyer Beware!!



### Energy Efficient Windows

You've heard the expression "Buyer Beware!!"

Cowlitz PUD would like you to be aware that your best value in purchasing more efficient windows may be from contractors from the local area, including those on the PUD's Qualified Contractor's List. Some contractors from outside the local area are selling people energy efficient windows at exorbitant prices. In many cases these people tend to target the elderly. There have been instances where unscrupulous window contractors have charged up to \$100 or more per square foot.

These high priced windows are no better or more efficient than vinyl windows purchased from reputable local window contractors. The typical cost for contractor-installed energy efficient vinyl windows with a U-factor of 0.30 or less, is between \$18 and \$23 per square foot.

Be particularly cautious of unsolicited window installers or sales people who contact you before you contact them. Any window vendor who says "you must sign today or you will not get our special reduced price" is almost always the highest priced window bidder.

We encourage you to get 2-3 bids on any window purchases before making any final decisions.

*If you have questions about a bid you may have received for energy efficient windows, please call a Cowlitz PUD energy advisor at (360) 577-7514 or 1-800-631-1131.*



## The NFRC Window Label

The National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) energy performance label can help you determine how well a product will perform the functions of helping to cool your building in the summer, warm your building in the winter, keep out wind, and resist condensation. By using the information contained on the label, builders and consumers can reliably compare one product with another and make informed decisions about the windows, doors, and skylights they buy.

NFRC adopted a new energy performance label in 2005. It lists the manufacturer, describes the product, provides a source for additional information, and includes ratings for one or more energy performance characteristics.

NOTE: All energy performance values on the label represent the rating of windows/doors as whole systems (glazing and frame).

#### U-Factor

U-factor measures how well a product prevents heat from escaping. The rate of heat loss is indicated in terms of the U-factor (U-value) of a window assembly. U-Factor ratings generally fall between 0.20 and 1.20. The insulating value is indicated by the R-value, which is the inverse of the U-value. The lower the U-value, the greater a window's resistance to heat flow and the better its insulating value.

#### Solar Heat Gain Coefficient

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) measures how well a product blocks heat caused by sunlight. The SHGC is the fraction of incident solar radiation admitted through a window (both directly transmitted and absorbed) and subsequently released inward. SHGC is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The lower a window's solar heat gain coefficient, the less solar heat it transmits into the house.

#### Visible Transmittance

Visible Transmittance (VT) measures how much light comes through a product. The visible transmittance is an optical property that indicates the amount of visible light transmitted. VT is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. The higher the VT, the more light is transmitted.

#### Air Leakage\*

Air Leakage (AL) is indicated by an air leakage rating expressed as the equivalent cubic feet of air passing through a square foot of window area (cfm/sq ft). Heat loss and gain occur by infiltration through cracks in the window assembly. The lower the AL, the less air will pass through cracks in the window assembly.

#### Condensation Resistance\*

Condensation Resistance (CR) measures the ability of a product to resist the formation of condensation on the interior surface of that product. The higher the CR rating, the better that product is at resisting condensation formation. While this rating cannot predict condensation, it can provide a credible method of comparing the potential of various products for condensation formation. CR is expressed as a number between 0 and 100. ■

\*This rating is optional and manufacturers can choose not to include it.

		<b>World's Best Window Co.</b> Millennium 2000 <sup>+</sup> Vinyl-Clad Wood Frame Double Glazing • Argon Fill • Low E Product Type: Vertical Slider (per NFRC 100-97)	
<b>ENERGY PERFORMANCE RATINGS</b>			
U-Factor (U.S./I-P)	<b>0.35</b>	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient	<b>0.32</b>
<b>ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS</b>			
Visible Transmittance	<b>0.51</b>	Air Leakage (U.S./I-P)	<b>0.2</b>
<small>Manufacturer stipulates that these ratings conform to applicable NFRC procedures for determining whole product performance. NFRC ratings are determined for a fixed set of environmental conditions and a specific product size. Consult manufacturer's literature for other product performance information. www.nfrc.org</small>			