

Low-Income Weatherization B-Roll

Scene-by-Scene Description

Get the facts behind the footage available on the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) B-Roll Web site at eere.energy.gov/news/b_roll.cfm.

Video Title: House Weatherization B-Roll

Video Only/No Audio

Location: Wheatridge, Colorado

Shoot Date: May 24, 2010

Total Running Time: 7:15

- Scene 1:** 00:05: A trained weatherization crew prepares an attic for blown insulation by patching holes with foil-faced bubble wrap. This barrier reflects about 97% of radiant energy, which keeps hot air out in the summer and warm air in during the winter. A layer of air bubbles also reduces the passage (or conduction) of the very small percentage of energy that is absorbed, making it even more energy efficient.
- Scene 2:** 00:49: Technicians prepare an attic for loose cellulose insulation that will be blown in by filling cracks and electrical cable holes with expansion foam insulation.
- Scene 3:** 01:08: Ductwork joints found in an attic are re-sealed with foil tape to increase heating and ventilation efficiency. In 2010, weatherized homes nationally will save \$2.1 billion for low-income families¹.
- Scene 4:** 01:27: A weatherization technician blows cellulose insulation into difficult-to-reach attic spaces, and on top of an existing insulation layer to a depth of about 12 inches. This type of insulation material is effective and environmentally friendly.
- Scene 5:** 02:17: Cellulose insulation is fed through a compressor that blows the loose material through tubing and into attics and wall cavities. Made with recycled paper, cellulose insulation has the highest level of recycled content than any other insulation material, which saves natural resources and reduces land fill and CO₂ emissions.
- Scene 6:** 03:07: A home's interior furnishings and fixtures are carefully protected before blowing insulation into exterior walls.
- Scene 7:** 03:50: A weatherization technician drills holes into a home's exterior walls where insulation will be blown in to fill the cavities between studs.
- Scene 8:** 04:28: Loose cellulose is a good solution for adding insulation to existing walls.

¹ <http://www.waptac.org/WAP-Basics.aspx>

Scene 9: 05:15: Because the home’s main-level sub floor is accessible from the basement, “bat” or “roll” style insulation can be installed between floor joists for added insulation.

Scene 10: 05:41: Home weatherization always includes inspection of the home’s water heating and delivery system. In this home, an insulation blanket is installed on the hot water heater. Then, ductwork is completely sealed with a thorough application of mastic.

Scene 11: 06:30: Large holes drilled every 24 inches for the application of blown insulation are thoroughly repaired before the job is finished. Every home must receive a quality control inspection before the work can be considered complete. Typically, a two- or three-person crew adequately trained in advanced weatherization technologies can complete the average home in approximately 2.5 business days.

Learn More about Low-Income Home Weatherization

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) was created in 1976 to assist low-income families who lack resources to invest in energy efficiency. The program’s standards require the use of the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. In a little over three decades, WAP has provided weatherization services to more than 6.4 million low-income households. National research laboratories such as DOE’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory have developed many of the technologies and practices utilized through WAP.

WAP provides Federal funding to state and local agencies throughout the U.S. to administer their own weatherization programs, which helps the country reduce its dependence on foreign oil and decreases the cost of energy for families in need while improving the health and safety of their homes. For more information about DOE’s Weatherization Assistance Program, visit eere.energy.gov/wip. For information on the management and administration of WAP as well as technical information, visit waptac.org.