

Weatherization Saves Money

SHERMAN, JULY 22, 2014 – Dr. Susan Thomas, Executive Director of Texoma Council of Governments (TCOG) announced today TCOG is accepting applications for weatherization assistance.

“Summer brings warm weather, backyard barbecues and trips to the lake. But Summer also brings higher electricity bills as folks try to keep cool.” stated Thomas. “We want to let homeowners and renters know there is assistance available through TCOG’s Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).”

TCOG provides the WAP Program to low- income families in an effort to reduce the infiltration of air to their homes which reduces consumption and lowers utility bills, providing families with more disposable income for other necessities.

Professionally trained weatherization crews use computerized energy audits and advance diagnostic equipment, such as a blower door and manometer, to determine the most cost-effective measures appropriate for each home.

Typical measures may include installing ceiling, wall and floor insulation, caulking and weather-stripping, sealing ducts, tuning and repairing heating and cooling systems; all of which decreases air infiltration and reduces electric consumption.

WAP crews also perform health and safety tests that include testing heating units and appliances for combustion safety, carbon monoxide and gas leaks.

The TCOG Weatherization Program not only benefits the families receiving the work, but also helps revitalize communities by spurring economic growth and reducing environmental impacts. According to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for every \$1 invested in the program, there is a \$1.67 return in economic benefit.

The Texoma Council of Governments is a voluntary association of the local governments in Cooke, Fannin, and Grayson Counties. Established in 1968, the Texoma Council of Governments promotes economy and efficiency in the coordinated planning and development of the tri-county region through its community and economic development activities. Either directly, or through contractors, the Council provides housing, utility assistance, and weatherization services for low-income citizens in the region and assists the elderly through a variety of Area Agency on Aging programs. The Council also facilitates the delivery of grant funding for homeland security and criminal justice.

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