

News Release



Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Holly Miller
Senior Administrator
Department of Community and Economic Development
hmiller@summitoh.net
330-643-8013

Summit County Executive Shapiro and Summit County Council Adopt Legislation to Accept \$1,044,559 in Grant Funding from the Ohio Home Weatherization Assistance Program and U.S. Department of Energy

On Monday, August 6, 2018, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro and Summit County Council passed legislation approving and adopting legislation to accept grant funding totaling \$1,044,559 from the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) beginning 7/1/18 through 6/30/19.

The Home Weatherization Program is designed to lower the energy burden for qualified households in Summit County. Funds are received from the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. To qualify for this program, the average household income may not exceed \$50,200 for a family of four. Services can include new furnace, hot water tank, insulation, ventilation and radon prevention. It is estimated that 110 households will be served from this grant funding during this program year.

“This federal grant funding will provide numerous households throughout Summit County with more secure living environments,” said Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro. “Programs such

as HWAP work to strengthen our community by providing residents with much needed peace of mind in their homes and will enhance the quality of life for many of these individuals and families.”

For residents who do not qualify for HWAP, there are numerous ways to reduce energy burden:

Check the furnace filter monthly and change it if it is dirty

Utilize a smart thermostat to set the temperature in your house at 68 degrees in the winter and 75 degrees in the summer

Insulate your hot water tank

Insulate your water pipes

Install a low flow shower head and faucets

Turn your water heater thermostat down to 120 degrees

Take short showers

Avoid running the water constantly when washing dishes by hand

Avoid running the water constantly when brushing your teeth

During the summer months close shades and drapes to help block the sun’s heat during the day

Clean the dust off the condenser coils on the back of your refrigerator

Install LED bulbs in all light fixtures

Utilize Smart Strips for TV’s, gaming stations, and computers

“HWAP is a fantastic program that not only reduces the energy burden for many homeowners and renters, but also provides for much needed household improvement,” said District 7 Summit County Councilmember Michael Soyars. “We are very pleased to have received this grant funding that will make a difference in over 100 residences throughout Summit County.”

For more information and how to apply, please visit:

<https://co.summitoh.net/index.php/departments/community-a-economic-development/community-development/hwap>

Services are available to homeowners and renters- all properties must be current on their property taxes.

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