What is The Weatherization Assistance Program in Georgia and What Can You Expect?

The Weatherization Assistance Program has been in existence since the 1970’s. Homeowners today have a unique opportunity to reduce energy costs by applying for and working through the process of weatherization. The Weatherization Assistance Program [WAP] is a free service to qualifying households meeting all eligibility requirements.

There are many steps involved in the process:
1. You must apply at the local Community Action agency in your county that is taking applications.
2. After your application is complete, income is verified. If you qualify, expect to schedule an appointment for a home energy inspection.
3. Keep your home energy inspection appointment!
4. After the inspection and if the house is suitable for weatherization, the weatherization agency will schedule work to be done to the house. If the house, for any reason, cannot be weatherized, the agency will notify you in writing as to the reason why.
5. You will be contacted for a schedule of the work.
6. You will meet with an Energy Educator from the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension to discuss energy saving ideas for your home.
7. Energy efficient improvement work will be completed!
8. A final inspection of the weatherization work will be scheduled.
9. Keep track of your utility bills to add up your savings!
Preparing your home for the inspection is a very important step in the process. This is what you can do to prepare for your house inspection:

1. Make sure there is clear access to your crawl space (under your home) from the outside of your home. You may be required to remove any items in the crawl space.
2. Make sure there is clear access to your attic entrance and remove any items stored in the attic.
3. Clear away clutter from the walls and floors of your home.
4. Have your most recent energy bills such as electricity, natural gas, propane, for your energy conservation educator to review.
5. Clean all ashes out of your fireplace.

What the Weatherization Assistance Program WILL DO for a qualified home, following the priority list:

1. Perform a blower door test to check for air leaks.
2. Seal your house to reduce air leaks.
3. Add insulation where necessary.
4. Replace regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL)
5. Install smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors where necessary.
6. Install weather stripping and caulk where necessary.

What the Weatherization Assistance Program WILL NOT DO:

1. Remodel your home
2. Clean your gutters or paint
3. Landscaping or garden work
4. Plumbing
5. Electrical work
6. Replace cabinets
7. Replace doors or windows
8. Install wheelchair ramps

For more energy and water conservation suggestions, contact your local county Extension office at 1-800-ASK-UGA1