

**Hampton Green Energy Committee**  
Hampton, CT 06247  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
7:00 PM  
Town Hall Conference Room

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kate Donnelly called the meeting to order at 7:00. Committee members in attendance: Kate Donnelly, Maryellen Donnelly, Ellen Embardo, Ev Hyde and Revell Sandberg-Diment. Also in attendance was Randy Thompson. Committee members Rachel Girshick and Bob Marsh joined at 7:06.

**2. AUDIENCE FOR CITIZENS**

Randy Thompson said the Green Energy Committee is doing good work.

**3. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

None

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 2/11/15**

**Motion: Ev Hyde moved, Ellen Embardo seconded, to approve the minutes of February 11, 2015.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**5. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Ellen Embardo asked that congratulations to Kate Donnelly be added to the agenda (5a).

5.a. Kate Donnelly was given an award for her successful work in the SolarizeCT campaigns. The award is summarized in the March 9, 2015 online [The Sm@rtPwr Buzz](#) message:

Today, SmartPower and our partners at the Connecticut's Green Bank, Yale and Duke were awarded the highly coveted "Project of Distinction Award" by the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) at PV America in Boston. The project is funded by the Department of Energy's Sunshot Award.

The 2015 Project of Distinction Award recognizes excellence in the industry, and acknowledges that projects such as Solarize Connecticut and SEEDS Research are the driving force behind the success, growth, and future of solar.

This award bolsters our work to make Solarize a proven formula to drive residential solar adoption. It relies on an on-the-ground outreach campaign that helps educate consumers while at the same time creating awareness and walks the consumer all the way from awareness about solar to actually purchasing it. In Connecticut over 2,000 residential homes are now powered by solar energy as a result of the Solarize Connecticut Campaign!

But, to be sure the real winners here, are the thousands of families across Connecticut who are now using solar power.

Thank you for all that you do,

Brian F. Keane

President

PS: Share this!

Maryellen Donnelly asked that the 20% by 2010 Google Group be added to the agenda. (7.c.)

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### a. **Energy Fair review and follow-up**

Ellen Embardo's slide show and display panel were beautiful and the Green Energy Committee will display them at Town Hall and ask to display them at the elementary school.

A special thank you to the Hampton Elementary School PTO for providing delicious food and drink. Thank you to the teachers and Principal Elise Guari who helped with presentation and for attending the event.

The contact information from participants is included as the second addendum to these minutes. Maryellen Donnelly will send emails to thank people for participating and donating door prizes.

Copies of energy fair handouts (Addendum 3) are available in the elementary school office and on the wire rack in the hallway at Town Hall. They are Home Energy Resource Sheet, Summary of Residential EnergizeCT Incentives and Financing Assistance, Revised 2/4/15 and Energy Assistance for Winter 2014-2015, CT Legal Services (applicable through May 15).

From the survey about programs of interest, the committee will work on a film series, perhaps in May and June, and lectures on energy efficiency/renewable energy, perhaps in early September. A table summarizing the responses is included as the first addendum to these minutes.

### b. **Solar PV at elementary school**

There are positive developments for installation of the system, which are not yet confirmed.

### c. **Lighting at elementary school**

Earthlight Technologies Doug Lombardi is reviewing data at our request.

### d. **Green Energy Webpage**

Ellen Embardo will update the website and include the alternative energy systems from the slideshow after asking permission from the owners to include photos and whether they want their names included.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### a. **ZREC proposal for garage**

**Motion: Bob Marsh moves, Ev Hyde seconds, that the Green Energy Committee ask CTEC Solar to submit a small ZREC proposal for only a roof mount on the town garage if applications are still open, and if not, to prepare a proposal for the next the small ZREC program. The motion passed unanimously.**

CTEC Solar had submitted a small ZREC proposal in the past that included both roof mounted and ground mounted PV system.

### b. **Future Activities**

The committee will work on a film series and energy lectures. Members will also explore whether elementary school staff would want activities provided or led, perhaps including Kill a Watt devices to demonstrate energy use.

c. **20% by 2010 Google group**

In order to eliminate forwarding messages, Maryellen Donnelly asked committee members to subscribe to the Google Group "Connecticut 20% by 2010 Clean Energy Communities" if they choose. Information about subscribing is at the end of the messages they have been sent.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion: Bob Marsh moved, Revell Sandberg-Diment seconded, to adjourn.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:46.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be April 8, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryellen Donnelly

Note: Minutes are draft until accepted at a subsequent HGEC meeting.

**Addendum 1**

The survey question at the Save Money and Energy Fair was:

*The Hampton Green Energy Committee will be planning more programs in the future. Which are you interested in attending?*

The following is the summary of those who responded. (Local vendors defined as those living in Hampton and Chaplin.)

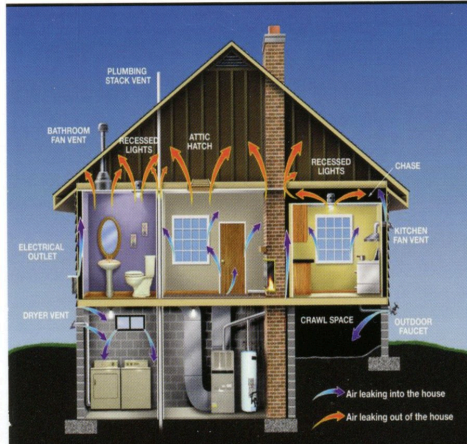
	Visitors	Local Vendors	Committee Members	Subtotals (Local)	Other Vendors	Totals
Solar Workshops	4	1	0	5	2	7
Environmental Film Series	4	1	4	9	2	11
Solar Home Tour	2	1	1	4	2	6
Energy Efficiency/ Renewable energy lectures	8	2	2	12	3	15
Educational Employment Opportunities	2	2	1	5	3	8

**Addendum 2**

Contact Information for **Save Money and Energy Fair**, March 4, 2015 (in alphabetical order)

Contact	Specialty
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A &amp; B Cooling &amp; Heating Corp.</b>  <i>Geothermal Comfort Systems</i>                      HVAC • SHEET METAL • GEOTHERMAL • SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>David M. Shenker</b>                      303670-S1</p> <p>Office (860) 528-4GEO                      660 Nutmeg Road North                      Fax (860) 290-8406                      P.O. Box 1356                      abcoolingandheatin@yahoo.com      South Windsor, CT 06074                      www.abcoolingandheating.com</p> <hr/> <p>Guy Wanegar, President</p>	<p>Geothermal                      Installed many Hampton systems</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>earthlight</b>                      solar &amp; energy solutions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ben burnett                      business development manager</p> <p style="text-align: center;">92 West Road, Ellington, CT 06029                      email ben@earthlighttech.com                      cell 607.624.8595 office 860.871.9700 fax 860.871.9439                      www.earthlighttech.com</p> <hr/>	<p>Installed outdoor LED lighting at                      Hampton Elementary School                      Residential solar</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GREEN BUILDING</b>                      SOLUTIONS, INC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Energy Efficient Home Construction • Geothermal Heating &amp; Cooling                      Corey B. Krohn, President</p> <p>P.O. Box 355                                      (860) 428-4691                      Windham, CT 06280                      coreykrohn@hotmail.com</p> <hr/>	<p>Geothermal heating and cooling                      Energy efficient home construction</p>

# REDUCE YOUR ENERGY BILLS



www.lanternenergy.com  
1-877-878-3006

## Home Energy Solutions Program

**LANTERN ENERGY**  
33 Wisconsin Ave.  
Norwich, CT 06360

CALL 1.877.878.3006  
or apply online-  
www.LanternEnergy.com

STAMP

We would like to give you the opportunity to contact us to schedule an appointment for a Home Energy Assessment. We can help lower your energy costs with just one in-home visit. When we come out to your home, you can expect an informative and professional consultation as well as air sealing, lighting, and water saving measures.

**Please give us a call or email us at [info@lanternenergy.com](mailto:info@lanternenergy.com) and we will be glad to schedule your appointment.**



Home Energy Solutions (HES) companies are private companies that contract with the CT Energy Efficiency Fund ([www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com)) to do energy audits and provide services/products. (The Energy Efficiency Programs are funded through a Combined Public Benefits charge on your electric bill, reviewed by the [Energy Conservation Management Board](#), approved by the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control and administered by the utility companies.)



**Paul Wakely**

860.428.3206

pswakely@charter.net

**Ben Wakely**

860.933.2015

paulwakelybuilders@gmail.com



[www.PaulWakelyBuildersLLC.com](http://www.PaulWakelyBuildersLLC.com)

Paul Wakely, a Hampton resident, and his son Ben do energy efficient construction.



DOUG STEWART

860-948-0624 CELL

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[DOUG@PROINSULATIONCT.COM](mailto:DOUG@PROINSULATIONCT.COM)

[WWW.PROINSULATIONCT.COM](http://WWW.PROINSULATIONCT.COM)

Hampton resident who insulated Town Hall and residences

Walter Erickson, Stephan Hartmann, Geoffrey Rowley were also present. Use same contact information as Rafael's below except cell number.




**ROSS SOLAR GROUP** LLC

RAFAEL SANCHEZ

Ross Solar Group is the company that was chosen for the Hampton, Ashford, Chaplin and Pomfret SolarizeCT program They completed many solar photovoltaic installations.

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38 BEAVER BROOK ROAD  
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PHONE: (203) 512-4500

CELL: (203) 300-1981  
FAX: (866) 271-3016  
[RAFAEL@ROSSSOLARGROUP.COM](mailto:RAFAEL@ROSSSOLARGROUP.COM)  
[WWW.ROSSSOLARGROUP.COM](http://WWW.ROSSSOLARGROUP.COM)

 <p>Visit us on Facebook Shippee Solar  <a href="mailto:shippeesolarconstruction@hotmail.com">shippeesolarconstruction@hotmail.com</a>  <a href="http://www.shippeesolarconstruction@hotmail.com">www.shippeesolarconstruction@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Installed photovoltaic system on Hampton Elementary School, ground mounted Town Hall photovoltaic system, as well as installing residential systems.</p>
<p>TechniArt  Jay Parauka  <a href="mailto:jason@techiart.com">jason@techiart.com</a>  860-978-5663 <a href="http://www.techniart.com/">http://www.techniart.com/</a>  TechniArt  PO Box 500  Collinsville, CT 06022  Attn: Jason Parauka</p>	<p>Private company that is subsidized by utility companies and sells discount energy efficient bulbs and water and energy conservation products.</p>
<p>Christine Armstrong and Sharon Wakely  The Last Green Valley, Inc.  PO Box 29  111 Main Street  Danielson, CT 06239-0029  <a href="mailto:mail@thelastgreenvalley.org">mail@thelastgreenvalley.org</a>  860-774-3300  <a href="http://thelastgreenvalley.org">thelastgreenvalley.org</a></p>	<p>Provided grant for solar thermal system on Hampton Elementary School and educational materials.  The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) is a member supported, non-profit organization stewarding the 35-town National Heritage Corridor named The Last Green Valley.</p>

**Addendum 3**

The handouts, Home Energy Resource Sheet, Summary of Residential EnergizeCT Incentives and Financing Assistance, Revised 2/4/15 and Energy Assistance for Winter 2014-2015, CT Legal Services (applicable through May 15) follow.



# Home Energy Resource Sheet

## Summary of Residential EnergizeCT Incentives and Financing Assistance

### Energy Efficiency Programs 1-877-WISEUSE [www.energizect.com](http://www.energizect.com)

CT Energy Efficiency Fund conservation programs are administered by the electric and gas utilities

1. **Whole house energy conservation programs** Call 1-877-WISEUSE for info or click on the program name you are interested in at [www.energizect.com/hes](http://www.energizect.com/hes)

- A. **Home Energy Solutions (HES)** \$99 for all homes (not income-eligible for free services.) Open to renters and owners. Included services include air sealing, hot water and lighting improvements, and access to special rebates and financing.
  - o Insulation rebate; \$1.00/ft<sup>2</sup> for attic/walls, \$.50/ft<sup>2</sup> for basement
  - o Appliances: \$25-\$50 rebate for ENERGY STAR refrigerators/freezers, room air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, dehumidifiers if recommended in a HES visit
- B. **HES Income-Eligible-** free energy-saving service for households under 60% state median income
- C. **Home Performance with Energy Star-** incentives and financing for deeper improvements beyond the scope of HES or in homes that have done HES. Must use listed contractor, incentives release after successful inspection. Price for audit and work set by contractors.
- D. **New construction program-** call 1-877-WISEUSE for home energy rating and rebates.

2. **Efficient Lighting** now including **LED**, is discounted in participating retail stores and through the Smart Living Catalog: <http://www.efi.org/smartliving/> or order at 800-527-4448

3. **Heating/Cooling Appliance Discounts** (Call 1-877-WISE-USE or <http://energizect.com/residents/solutions/rebates> Automatic discounts at participating retailers & distributors)

- **Ductless Heat Pump-** rebate of **\$300** per home for  $\geq 20$  SEER,  $\geq 12.5$  EER,  $\geq 10$  HSPF (Single Zone) or  $\geq 18$  SEER,  $\geq 9$  HSPF (Multi-Zone). \$1000 rebate for electrically heated homes (HES required)
- **Air-Source Heat Pump - \$500** rebate for ENERGY STAR  $\geq 18$  SEER,  $\geq 12$  EER  $\geq 10$  HSPF (Split) or  $\geq 16$  SEER,  $\geq 12$  EER  $\geq 9$  HSPF (Single Packaged Systems)
- **Geothermal Heat Pumps-** \$500 per ton (**up to \$1500**), for homes that meet insulation standard and with air leakage less than 1 CFM50 / Square Foot, and geothermal system efficiency standards
- **High-Efficiency Gas Furnace - \$600** automatic discount on ENERGY STAR, 95% AFUE
- **Natural Gas Boiler with Water Heater-** **\$750** automatic discount on ENERGY STAR, 90%AFUE
- **Oil Furnace-** automatic discount of **\$200** for 85% AFUE
- **Propane Furnace-** automatic discount of **\$200** for AHRI rated  $\geq 95\%$  AFUE
- **Central Air Conditioning-** **\$250** rebate (addl \$500 with Quality Verified Installation) for ENERGY STAR  $\geq 14.5$  SEER,  $\geq 12$  EER (Split) or ENERGY STAR  $\geq 14$  SEER,  $\geq 11$  EER (packaged systems)

### Solar Power Incentives (860) 563-0015

Administered by the Green Bank, a quasi-public state agency (formerly CEFIA)

- **Solar Electric incentives-** for purchased and leased systems; [www.energizect.com/smallsolar/](http://www.energizect.com/smallsolar/)

### Questions? Contact Melissa Everett of Clean Water Action/ Clean Water Fund

Call 860-232-6232, email [meverett@cleanwater.org](mailto:meverett@cleanwater.org)

Revised 2/4/15

## Energy Efficiency Financing <http://www.energizect.com/residents/solutions/financing>

### 1. Residential Energy Efficiency Financing Program (HES)

<http://www.chif.org/page/borrower-information-and-application>

**A. Small loans** 0% interest for \$1000-3000 loans for insulation, ductless heat pumps, heat pump water heaters.

**B. Deeper Loans** 2.99% to 6.99% interest loans for insulation, heating/ cooling systems, water heaters recommended by Home Energy Solutions. \$3000 to \$25,000 loans, up to 20% for necessary non-energy improvements.

**B. EnergizeCT Heating Loan** – 0% percent until May 31, 2015 for heating systems. Repayment on electric bill. Up to 10 year loan term. [www.EnergizeCT.com/heatingloan](http://www.EnergizeCT.com/heatingloan)

**C. Energy Conservation Loans** – Income-restricted below market (0– 6% interest) loans up to \$25,000 <http://www.chif.org/page/energy-conservation-loan-program>

## Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Financing

**A. Solar Loan program** – [www.energizect.com/ctsolarloan](http://www.energizect.com/ctsolarloan) **Note:** solar electric only

**B. Solar Lease program** – [www.energizeCT.com/ctsolarlease](http://www.energizeCT.com/ctsolarlease) **Note:** solar electric or hot water systems

**C. Smart-E** – <http://www.energizect.com/smart-e> Comprehensive way to finance many energy efficiency or renewable energy measures. Up to 20% of the borrowed amount can be used for health and safety upgrades (i.e. asbestos or lead remediation, roof repair ENERGY STAR small appliances, or other related measures.)

**D. Cozy Home** – 10 year 2.99% interest loan specially designed to benefit residents below 80% of Area Median Income. Details at <http://www.energizect.com/residents/programs/cozyhome> or (888) 232-3477.

## CT Clean Energy Options

**Website:** <http://www.energizect.com/residents/programs/CTCleanEnergyOptions>

Sign-up to support clean, renewable electricity for just a few dollars per month.

## Federal Energy Tax Credits

Renewable energy tax credits 30% through 2016, no cap on total dollar amount.

# The Hampton Green Energy Committee

The Hampton Green Energy Committee was established by the Board of Selectmen in January 2010. The Committee has been instrumental in conducting energy audits for all municipal buildings, followed by significant energy savings through energy efficiency measures on town buildings and solar installations through grant funding. Through the Committee's outreach efforts such as Energy Fairs and the Solarize Campaign, Hampton residents have been informed about opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and businesses and renewable energy opportunities.

To keep up to date on the committee's events and activities, please visit our Green Energy Committee website: <http://bit.ly/1a18MCE>

Green Energy Committee members:

Kate Donnelly (chair), Maryellen Donnelly (secretary), Ellen Embardo, Rachel Girshick, Everett Hyde, Susan Lovegreen, Bob Marsh, Revell Sanberg-Diment, Sharon Wakely



## CONNECTICUT LEGAL SERVICES

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20 SUMMER STREET  
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85 CENTRAL AVENUE  
WATERBURY, CT 06702

872 MAIN STREET  
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MERIDEN, CT 06451

98 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
SOUTH NORWALK, CT 06854

29 NAEK ROAD, SUITE 5A  
VERNON, CT 06066

TO: Persons Interested in Energy Assistance  
FROM: Wendy Wanchak  
DATE: September 8, 2014  
RE: **Energy Assistance for winter 2014-2015**

Connecticut's federally funded energy assistance plan has been approved by the legislature.

**Energy assistance applications are currently being accepted**, although benefits will not be available until November 12<sup>th</sup> (*i.e.*, no oil or other deliverable fuel deliveries will be covered before this date) and fuel deliveries will not be authorized until November 12<sup>th</sup>. To identify an energy assistance application site, contact 211 or DSS' energy hotline: 1-800-842-1132.

**The energy assistance application deadline runs through May 1<sup>st</sup> for most households and May 15<sup>th</sup> for utility heated households with a shut-off notice for their utility heat source.** All potentially eligible households should apply for energy assistance as soon as possible – there is always a risk the program will run out of funding before the deadline.

### Some highlights:

- **This year's program is very similar to the ones we have traditionally had in CT but benefits overall are down slightly** from last year.
- DSS will provide a **\$20.01 energy assistance benefit to low income households whose heat is included in their rent and rent is less than 30% of household income.** This small benefit, automatically provided to SNAP (food stamp) recipients in this category by DSS, **results in higher household SNAP benefits** in most cases (average of a little better than \$100/month) because DSS utilizes the "standard utility allowance" (SUA) when calculating SNAP benefits. It is important to encourage all low income households to apply for SNAP -- the energy assistance benefit is only available to households already receiving SNAP.
- **CL&P, UI, SCG, CNG and Yankee Gas will continue the affordability portion of their arrearage forgiveness programs.** Because utility heating costs have increased to unaffordable levels for many low income households, arrearage forgiveness programs are critically important. Anyone who receives energy assistance for heat services provided by one of these utilities can participate in that utility's arrearage forgiveness program.

○ Customers who cannot afford the amount of the monthly payments requested by the utility should be referred to a social service agency to complete a budget form that calculates what the household can afford to pay – these payments can be as low as



\$50/month if that is all the household can afford.

- The household will complete applications for “hardship status” (for protection from a winter utility shut-off) and for conservation assistance provided through CL&P or UI, at the same time the budget form is completed. In most cases, this should occur at the same time the household applies for energy assistance, avoiding confusion and ensuring full protection to vulnerable households.
- Arrearage forgiveness budgets are being set now for CL&P, UI, SCG, CNG and Yankee Gas heat customers. If the customer begins making the required payments, this should resolve a current threatened or actual shut-off, although the utility match will not apply to customer and energy assistance payments until after November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Community Action Agencies and other social service agencies are participating – ask the utility if you do not know where to refer someone as they have the list of trained social service agencies.

**All low income households, owners and renters, including those served by municipal (town) electric companies, should sign up for free conservation assistance through their electric utility to reduce their energy expenses.**

**DSS continues to require Social Security numbers (SSNs)** from every member of an applicant household, or at least proof that an SSN has been requested, with limited exceptions. Immigration rules are complicated and there are many immigrants who qualify for energy assistance but do not have an SSN, typically because they do not have authority to work in the US. A household may qualify for a reduced energy assistance benefit even if a member is an ineligible immigrant -- the immigrant’s income and assets will count against the household, but the immigrant is not counted as a household member. Households denied energy assistance or provided reduced benefits, can be referred to Statewide Legal Services: 1-800-453-3320 or [www.apply.slscet.org](http://www.apply.slscet.org).

**Attached please find the following for your use in assisting clients:**

- **Summary chart and notes regarding available energy assistance and related benefits, including weatherization assistance;**
- **Outreach flyer** – can be provided directly to clients or blown up and posted.

## ENERGY RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR WINTER 2014 - 15

(Two plans for different income levels)

**CEAP** (CT Energy Assistance Program); **CHAP** (Contingency Heating Assistance Program)

### CEAP eligibility

Any household whose annual gross income is at or below 150% of the Federal poverty guidelines is income eligible for **CEAP**:

Household Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual income:	\$17,505	\$23,595	\$29,685	\$35,775	\$41,865	\$47,955	\$54,045	\$60,135
Monthly income	1,458	1,966	2,473	2,981	3,488	3,996	4,503	5,011

Also, **vulnerable** households whose annual gross income is at or below 200% of the Federal poverty level are income eligible for **CEAP**.

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual income:	\$23,340	\$31,460	\$39,580	\$47,700	\$55,820	\$63,940	\$72,060	\$80,180

Households where all members receive one of the following DSS programs are eligible for CEAP: Temporary Family Assistance, State Supplement (AABD), Refugee Cash Assistance. Benefit level is determined by total household income; if income exceeds 150% of poverty, household is eligible for CEAP benefit at 150% of poverty.

### CHAP eligibility

**CHAP** benefits are available to households ineligible for **CEAP**, up to 60% of the state median income including:

- (1) Vulnerable households whose annual gross income is between 200% of the Federal poverty guidelines and 60% of the state median income.
- (2) Non-vulnerable households whose annual gross income is between 150% of the Federal poverty guidelines and 60% of the state median income guidelines:

Household Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual income:	\$32,515	\$42,519	\$52,524	\$62,528	\$72,532	\$82,537	\$84,413	\$86,289
Monthly income:	2,709	3,543	4,377	5,210	6,044	6,878	7,034	7,190

**Assets Test:** Homeowners with liquid assets over \$10,000 and all others with liquid assets over \$7,000 are ineligible for energy assistance, unless assets over these amounts plus income are less than income limit for assistance.

**Households with ineligible immigrants:** Income and assets of immigrants count, but household number is reduced by the number of ineligible immigrants in the household. Many non-citizens are eligible for energy assistance, including some without Social Security numbers. Refer those denied assistance or provided reduced benefits to Statewide Legal Services: 1-800-453-3320 or [www.apply.slsc.org](http://www.apply.slsc.org).

#### **Benefits<sup>1</sup> Based on Household Income and Source of Heat:**

Income (as % of FPL or SMI)	Basic Heat Benefit (primary heat only; benefit paid to vendor)		"Renter" Benefits (heat included in rent)	
	Vulnerable (household includes member who is disabled, 60+ or under 6 years)	Non-vulnerable	rent exceeds 30% of gross income; benefit paid to household	rent less than 30% of gross income; household must receive SNAP benefits to get this benefit
0%-100% FPL ( <b>CEAP</b> )	\$ 550	\$ 505	\$ 100	\$20.01 (DSS automatically provides benefit without application)
101%-125% FPL ( <b>CEAP</b> )	\$ 470	\$ 425	\$ 90	
126%-150% FPL ( <b>CEAP</b> )	\$ 400	\$ 355	\$ 80	
151%-200% FPL ( <b>CEAP/CHAP</b> )	\$ 330 (CEAP)	\$ 285 (CHAP)	(No "renter" benefit)	
201% FPL - 60% SMI ( <b>CHAP</b> )	\$ 285			

<sup>1</sup> Households receiving CEAP, even a nominal benefit, will have their SNAP (food stamp) benefits calculated by DSS using the "standard utility allowance" (SUA). This typically results in higher food stamp benefits.

**Crisis & Safety-net benefits:** (limited to deliverable fuels, e.g., oil, propane, wood, coal, kerosene)

- Crisis Assistance: Basic heat benefit is exhausted and help requested by 3/16/15. One time payment of up to:
  - \$415 for CEAP households; and
  - \$130 for CHAP households.
- "Safety-Net": Crisis benefit is exhausted and help requested by 3/16/15. CAAs conduct a "risk assessment" of household; if household cannot pay for fuel delivery and no other heated shelter option is available, payment of up to \$415 for fuel delivery is authorized.
  - Two safety-net payments available for vulnerable households; and
  - One safety-net payment available for non-vulnerable households.
  - *No safety-net benefit available for CHAP.*

**Furnace Clean, Tune and Test and Deliverable Fuel heating system start-ups:** The cost is covered through basic benefits.

**Applications:** DSS website provides program and application information: [www.ct.gov/staywarm](http://www.ct.gov/staywarm). Applications taken at local CAAs (Community Action Agencies). To find local application sites, call 211, 1-800-842-1132, or CAA (see list below). Heating bills must be in the name of an adult household member or emancipated minor; copy of a bill should be provided with application. Those who cannot go to the CAA because they are disabled or ill should ask the CAA for the assistance needed to allow them to apply; if assistance is not provided, contact DSS' Civil Rights Officer at 860-424-4050.

- **CAAs:** Bridgeport – 203-384-6904; Bristol – 806-582-7490; Danbury – 203-748-5422; Derby-Ansonia-Shelton – 203-736-5420; Hartford – 860-560-5800 or 1-800-798-3805; Meriden – 203-235-0278; Middletown – 860-347-4465 x.223 or 224; New Britain – 860-223-2288; New Haven – 203-387-7700; Norwalk – TBA but call Action for Bridgeport Community Development @ 203- 384-6904; Norwich-New London - 860-425-6681; Stamford –TBA but call Action for Bridgeport Community Development @ 203- 384-6904; Waterbury – 203-756-8151; Willimantic – 860-450-7423; Danielson – 860-774-0418.

**Deadlines:**

- **Application deadline:** 5/1/15, except utility heated households with a shut-off notice for their heat utility may apply up to 5/15/15.
- **Fuel delivery period:** 11/12/14 to 3/16/15.
- **Fuel bill submission deadline** (fuel from participating dealers): 5/29/15.
- **Notice of benefits** granted must be provided by CAA within 45 days of application, excluding state holidays; notice contains appeal information.
- **Appeals:** Initial appeal must be a written request for review to the executive director of the CAA responsible for the application, made within 60 days of problem (but no later than 9/30/15); the CAA review decision may be appealed in writing to DSS, 55 Farmington Avenue., Hartford, CT 06105-3725 made within 60 days of the CAA decision.

**Other Resources:**

- **Fuel Banks:** **Operation Fuel** fuel banks and others provide assistance with energy and utility bills. Contact INFOLINE at 211 for local sites or go to [http://www.operationfuel.org/getting\\_help.html](http://www.operationfuel.org/getting_help.html) for Operation Fuel sites.
- **Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund:** Provides emergency assistance, including help with utility and energy bills, for honorably discharged veterans who served during specific time periods, their spouses and dependent children. Application sites are located in nearly every town. Contact INFOLINE at 211.
- **Free winter oil delivery:** Citizens Energy Oil Heat Program may be able to provide a one-time delivery of 100 gallons of home heating oil. For more information: 1-877-JOE-4-OIL, 1-617-338-6300 and <http://www.citizensenergy.com/english/pages/OilHeatProgram> .
- **Discounted oil:** [www.cashheatingoil.com](http://www.cashheatingoil.com), <http://www.dollarwiseoil.com> .
- **Weatherization/Conservation Related Assistance:**
  - **CAA weatherization program** for households with income less than 60% SMI ([www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep) - enter "weatherization" in the search box). Energy assistance application is also application for weatherization, but follow-up form from CAA must be completed.
  - **CL&P & UI Customers:** 1-877-WISE USE (1-877-947-3873) or go to: [www.ctenergyinfo.com/energy-programs.htm](http://www.ctenergyinfo.com/energy-programs.htm) , scroll down to the utility company serving the household and click on the residential link. This links to available programs. "HES Income Eligible" is the program with no charge for low income households. Ask for the "Healthy Homes" program to get enhanced benefits, including possible furnace repairs or replacements where the furnace is unsafe or inoperable.
  - **Municipal utilities have programs:** Bozrah - 860-889-7388; Groton - 860-446-4000; Jewett City - 860-376-2955; Norwich - 860-887-2555; S. Norwalk - 203-866-3366; Norwalk Third Taxing District - 203-866-9271; Wallingford - 203-294-2263.
  - **TFA, State Supplement (AABD) and SAGA recipient homeowners:** DSS funding available for repairs needed to allow them to remain in their homes. Apply with DSS worker.
  - **Heating System Repair/Replacement:**
    - Where heating system is unsafe or inoperable, repair or replacement may be available through UI and CL&P administered conservation programs for their low income customers – see above "CL&P & UI Customers."
    - DSS cash assistance recipients (TFA, AABD or State Supplement, and SAGA) who own their homes, may be able to get furnace repairs or replacement when necessary to allow them to remain in the home; contact DSS case worker to apply.
  - **Interest subsidized loans** available through **CHIF** for homeowners; call 860-233-5165.
  - The SmartLiving Center (moving to 120a Universal Drive, North Haven, CT; 1-866-762-7899) or (203) 799-0460, provides **free weatherization kits** to customers who take a tour.
- **Utility Arrearage Forgiveness Programs:** CL&P, UI, CNG, SCG and Yankee Gas have programs beginning each November where energy assistance eligible households (and recipients of other charitable utility payments such as fuel banks) are put on budget plans.

Substantially reduced payment plans ("below budget") are available through participating social service providers; if a customer cannot afford the payment requested, then a referral to a participating agency should be requested from the utility. If all payments are made by the household, the utility forgives back bills on a semi-annual basis and household is protected from shut-offs year round. CL&P and UI have alternate arrearage forgiveness programs for customers ineligible for energy assistance with separate eligibility criteria and forgiveness schedules. Some municipal utilities have programs. Apply with utility.

- **Hardship Utility Shut-off Protection:** Low-income "hardship" customers are entitled to have gas heat and electric service turned on between 11/1 and 5/1, even if they owe money to the utility, *except* if gas heat service was provided during prior winter based on "hardship" and service was turned off between 5/1 and 10/31, then, to get service turned on, customer must pay the lesser of \$100, minimum payments due under payment agreement, or 20% of debt to gas company when gas was shut off. Customers must apply for "hardship" protection at utility every fall. Gas and electric utility service must be provided year-round if a lack of service is life-threatening, regardless of debt to utility.

## ENERGY ASSISTANCE BENEFITS -- APPLY NOW!

**Application deadline: May 1, 2015 (May 15, for utility heated households with a shut-off notice)**

***Apply early in case funds run out***



1. Energy assistance will help pay your heating bills. You may be eligible for benefits even if heat is included in your rent payment (*depending on your income and rent amount*).

2. Apply if your income is less than the amounts listed below:

number of people in household	1	2	3	4	5	6
monthly income	\$2,709	\$3,543	\$4,377	\$5,210	\$6,044	\$6,878

3. Apply at the local Community Action Agency, or call INFOLINE (211) for information on the closest application site. *Bring proof of income for everyone in the household and a copy of your fuel or utility heating bill.*

4. If you heat with electricity from CL&P or UI, or gas from Yankee Gas, SCG or CNG, ask the Community Action Agency to calculate a budget payment for the matching payment program. If they cannot help you, contact the utility company and apply for the matching payment program. *If you can't afford the payment amount requested by the utility company, ask for referral to a social service agency for calculation of a reduced payment.*

5. Assistance is available for heating equipment start-ups and tune-ups. *Ask when you apply for energy assistance.*

6. Ask for weatherization assistance –available to renters and homeowners from the Community Action Agency, CL&P and UI for their customers (1-800-WISE-USE), and municipal utilities for their customers (call the utility).

7. Repairs or replacements of unsafe or broken furnaces may be available to homeowners:

- CL&P or UI customers call 1-800-WISE-USE, ask for the “Healthy Homes” program and tell them your furnace isn’t working; and
- If you receive cash assistance from the Department of Social Services, ask a DSS worker for help.

8. Protect yourself from a winter shut-off by applying for “hardship status” at your electric and gas companies. You may be able to get shut-off protection all year if someone in your household has a condition where it would be life-threatening if utility service is shut off.

