



## Button Up Program

Button Up is a WEC service to help our members save energy and save money!

Why are we doing this? The state of Vermont has a goal to become 90% renewable by 2050. That includes all sources of energy; not just electricity. In fact, WEC is already 100% renewable so your electric use is already meeting the state's goal!

Now we want to tackle fossil fuels like propane, oil and gasoline. As part of state-wide standards enacted by law makers, we have programs to get you and other WEC members reach the goal of 90% renewable energy.

Working with Efficiency Vermont (EVT) and our partner Capstone WEC members may be eligible for incentives to improve energy performance of their residences.

The primary role WEC has in Button Up is to inform members whose homes meet minimum energy performance standards, to evaluate equipment and help make fuel choice decisions to improve comfort, reduce operating cost, save on energy expenses, and increase the equity value of your home. WEC incentives [supplement Efficiency Vermont incentives](#) for eligible equipment when installed by approved [certified contractors](#).

Homes which do not meet a minimum energy performance standard can be referred to a [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®](#) audit contractor to assess and report on the improvements that will save energy and money. The member then selects which improvements to invest in, and what incentives are available to lower the cost of those improvements.

Within the Co-op's 41-town service territory, WEC aims to provide Button Up WEC incentives by adding insulation, reducing air infiltration, and other air "tightening" and weatherization techniques. Contributions from Washington Electric will range from \$600 for weatherization improvements to \$250 for cold-climate heat pumps when installed in homes meeting minimum thermal standards, \$250 for heat pump water heaters (when replacing a fossil-fuel hot water system), and \$1,000 for pellet boilers.

The full list of 2020 Button Up incentives is here:

<https://35coti2fdydv27b6wjrhdxq9-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/1-2020-WEC-Button-Up-sheet.pdf>

What does "weatherization improvements" mean?

Weatherization generally means measuring how much air infiltration occurs in a building while providing sufficient fresh air for occupants and activities with adequate mechanical ventilation. Measurement is typically done by a blower door test(s).

By a comprehensive understanding how all energy is used at your home, we can help you make smart decisions based on economic benefits of reducing energy use (fossil fuels in particular).

“Weatherization does NOT mean (for example) “change the windows”, because most windows are often not a high economic benefit choice, compared to (1) reducing air leakiness and (2) adding insulation to areas of inadequate performance.

Weatherization contractors pin point air leaks by performing g energy audits, and then contracting for specific improvements which will save money and reduce energy consumption.

WEC will provide direct technical assistance for any interested member, including guidance on appropriate next steps and recommendations for in-network [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR](#) contractors. These energy professionals carry a national certification and provide access to Efficiency Vermont’s incentives.

Income eligible members may potentially be eligible to receive weatherization services at no cost through Vermont’s Weatherization Assistance program. [Income guidelines can be found here](#). Income eligibility is determined through our partner, Capstone Community Action. Households that receive other forms of assistance may pre-qualify for Weatherization services from Capstone.

#### Get Started!

Step 1: Download and print the forms below. Fill them out and mail them back to us at:

Washington Electric Coop, P.O.Box 8, East Montpelier VT 05651 OR EMAIL TO: [energycoach@wec.coop](mailto:energycoach@wec.coop)

Step 2: What service/equipment or technology: [WEC Button-up intake member information form](#)

Step 3: Button Up Application: [3-01-2020 building data intake form](#)

QUESTIONS? call the coach! 802.224.2329