

Weatherization Repayment Assistance Program (WRAP)



- Funded by \$9 million State appropriation.
- VHFA will provide capital and incentives for upfront costs of home weatherization projects, cycled back over time via on-bill repayment.
- Approved measures are specified by the Home Performance with Energy Star Program, including insulation and air sealing. In conjunction with weatherization, WRAP can also finance space heating and cooling, heat pump water heating, and necessary health and safety measures.
- WRAP repayment designed to be less than projected energy savings.
- Program funding targeted to households earning at or below 120% AMI.
- Homeowners and renters eligible in buildings with 1-4 units can participate*.



**Multifamily buildings must have single meter in building owner's name.*

WRAP's innovative financing structure is designed to address common barriers to weatherization for moderate income households:



Challenge	Solution
High upfront costs	WRAP combines utility and/or VHFA incentives with an on-bill repayment over time to greatly reduce or eliminate upfront costs.
Limited access to credit	With WRAP, traditional underwriting standards such as credit scores are not utilized. Underwriting is based on the customer's clean bill payment history with utilities for the 12 months prior to enrollment.
Long payback period	Long payback periods are a barrier if a customer think they might move during the payment period. In WRAP, the customer is only obligated to pay the surcharge for the length of time they occupy the property. If a customer moves, the new owner/renter of the property will pay the surcharge for the time they live there and experience the benefits of the measures.
Limited availability to renters	Since the WRAP charge is tied to the meter, renters can participate with landlord permission. Landlords agree to pay the charge if a subsequent tenant does not sign an agreement to pay the meter charge.

WRAP timeline



June 2021

- Weatherization funding passes Legislature and signed by Governor Scott (Act 74)
- Work with EAN, Efficiency VT, VGS, BED, distribution utilities and other stakeholders to design WRAP

Dec 2021

- Held customer focus groups
- Development of legal documents/agreements

July 2022

- Four utilities file tariff for WRAP with PUC

Sept 2022

- PUC approves all four tariffs
- Sign program agreements and prepare for launch

Dec 2022

- Kick-off event at the State House

WRAP Process



Interested customers will reach out to the Energy Efficiency Utilities (**Vermont Gas, Burlington Electric, or Efficiency Vermont**) for an initial screening.

An approved contractor will work with customer to develop a list of measures and estimated savings.

The Program Administrator determines:

- If measures meet 10% energy savings target.
- What incentives may apply, and amount of WRAP funding needed.

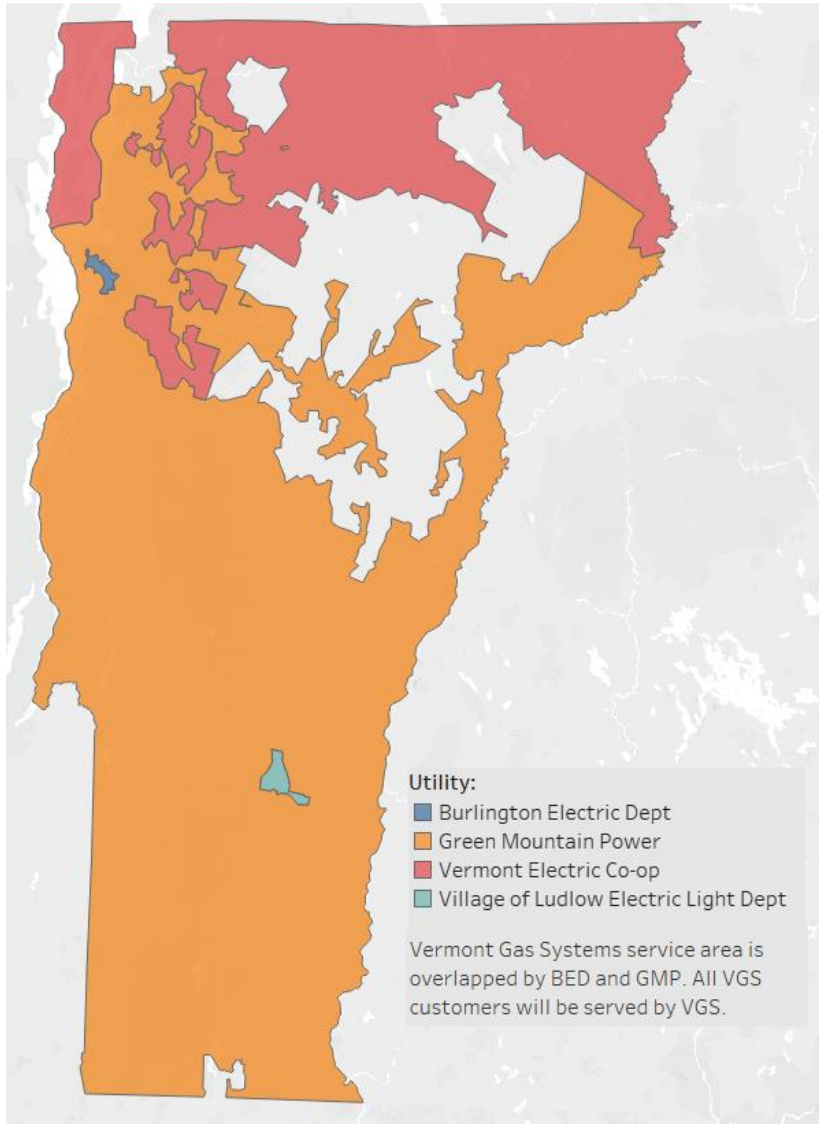
Once approved by the customer and the Administrator, the contractor will complete the work.

VHFA will review the project, reimburse the Program Administrator, and notify the customer's gas or electric utility of the new charge.

A WRAP repayment charge will be added to the customer's monthly electric bill.

WRAP launch

WRAP availability by utility



- Offering to customers in early 2023.
- Hoping more utilities file tariffs with a goal of truly statewide.
- State \$\$ could serve ~1,000 customers. Leahy earmark will add more.
- Post-roll out:
 - Can this model serve multifamily rentals?
 - Other uses of on-bill finance, like panel upgrades