

Weatherizing Jeannie & Bill's Old Farmhouse

Jeannie and Bill inherited their old farmhouse from Bill's grandmother. He grew up well acquainted with its many quirks. Every heaved up floor and cracked window was just another reminder of how grandma's gift may not have been such a blessing in the long run. It was a much-loved home, but one that needed a lot of love!

But what could they do? With four kids and jobs that weren't making them rich, huge renovations were out of the question.

Every winter, they'd seal the windows in plastic, caulk the cracks in the foundation, and do whatever they could to deal with the lack of insulation that just seemed normal for an old farmhouse.

Then, a neighbor told them about Vermont's Weatherization Assistance Program. They had decent jobs and didn't think they qualified. But they took a chance and reached out to their local weatherization agency to find out for sure. They learned that as a family of six, living in Grand Isle County, and making just under 89 thousand a year, they were, in fact, eligible.

Who knew?! The funds were there, and the crew was eager to get to work making their home more energy efficient, comfortable, and safe. Now, they're saving hundreds of dollars in energy costs every year. And they feel cozy and warm during those blustery, cold winter months!

You could be eligible if you:

- meet the income limits, or
- get benefits such as Reach Up, Seasonal Fuel Assistance, or SSI.

On average, the program:

- makes about \$8,500 worth of improvements per home,
- adds about 1,500 square feet of insulation, and
- reduces drafts by about 40%.

Learn more about the program and how to apply at <http://weatherization.vermont.gov/>

Weatherization work is done throughout the year. Apply anytime!