



# Batten Down the Savings

## Weatherization

### AIR SEALING

Every home and building needs fresh, outside air to maintain good indoor air quality. However, too much outside air can be costly to heat or cool and can reduce the comfort of your space. Striking the right balance is the goal of air sealing.



### THE BLOWER DOOR TEST

During your energy audit your Energy Specialist may set up a large fan with gauges in your doorway. When turned on, this fan will suck air out of your building and measure the amount of air leaking back in. Your Energy Specialist will then search for the leakage sources and help to seal these drafts. Sealing leaks will leave your space more efficient and comfortable.



### AIR QUALITY

In a well air sealed space it is important that your indoor air is clean and safe. Sometimes heating systems, water heaters, stored paints and cleaners, and clothes dryers can be sources of indoor air pollution. This is why your Energy Specialist will make sure your building has a healthy air exchange rate. He or she will also help you identify any sources of indoor air pollution and will test that your heating system is venting properly.

Questions? Call 401-574-9106 or email [becca.trietch@energy.ri.gov](mailto:becca.trietch@energy.ri.gov)





# Batten Down the Savings

## Weatherization



### R-VALUES

An R-Value is a measure of insulation's ability to hold in heat. The higher the R-Value, the better the product insulates. R-Values vary by type of insulation and method of installation. To get the most energy savings, be sure to install the highest R-Value available.

### INSULATION TYPES

Foam and loose-fill insulation are the two most common types of insulation available to homeowners. Foam insulation has a much greater R-Value per square inch, but it is difficult to apply. Loose-fill insulation is usually made of shredded recycled paper treated with fire-retardant. This type of insulation is easily blown into walls or attic spaces. When added on top of existing attic insulation, loose-fill insulation also helps to reduce air movement. No matter what type of insulation you use, it is important to apply it in the appropriate location.

### INSULATION

Heating in the winter can be tough on your wallet, especially if your space isn't well insulated. Without the proper insulation, heat may be escaping through your ceilings, floors, and walls. Here's how weatherization can help.

### WHERE TO INSULATE

Attics are ideal places for insulation. During the winter, warm air rises to your attic and can escape through your roof. Attic insulation can significantly reduce this heat loss.

Well insulated floors and exterior walls can also create effective barriers between you and the outside temperatures. Just remember, if you have an unheated basement and you add insulation to your floor, be sure to insulate any exposed pipes or ducts. It is likely your basement will be colder without heat leaking down through your floors.

### VENTILATION

If you would like to add insulation, your Energy Specialist will check your attic's ventilation. Proper attic ventilation can help dissipate moisture and prevent heat buildup in the summer. This can increase the lifespan of your shingles and will help to keep your house cool throughout the summer.

Questions? Call 401-574-9106 or email [becca.trietch@energy.ri.gov](mailto:becca.trietch@energy.ri.gov)

