



RED FEATHER



DIY Pre-Weatherization Home Inspection & Assessment Checklist

GENERAL

Red Feather workshops are free for community members. In order to continue offering free classes, Red Feather needs your help. This checklist, when combined with everyone else's, will help us describe your community's housing needs to foundations, agencies, corporations and people that want to aid Native Americans with their housing concerns. Your information will not be personally identifiable.

I agree to participate.

I DO NOT agree to participate.

Health & Safety concerns must be addressed before any air sealing and weatherization work can be started.

Inspection items that are considered health and safety will be identifiable by the H&S star. **★ H&S**

When was your home built? _____

How many people live in the home aged:

0-12 years? _____

13-18 years? _____

How many are adults (19-62 years)? _____

How many are elders (62+ years)? _____

How many rooms in your home? _____

★ H&S Does anyone in the home have asthma or other respiratory sickness? **Yes / No**

★ H&S Does anyone in your home suffer from headaches during the heating season? **Yes / No**

★ H&S Do you use a fireplace, coal or wood burning stove, fireplace insert, or unvented combustion space heater(s) in the winter? **Yes / No**

Fireplace

Fireplace Insert

Unvented Combustion Heater (e.g.: kerosene heater)

Coal/wood burning stove

Is your thermostat programmable? **Yes / No**

Does it control the whole house or individual zones?

What temperature is the thermostat typically set to?

WINTER _____ SPRING _____

SUMMER _____ FALL _____

Are certain parts of the house ever closed off to control temperature? **Yes / No**

Are rooms in the house cold? Please describe which one(s).

Which rooms are hot? _____

Can you feel a draft in any room? **Yes / No**

Please describe which room(s).

Are window shades used to control heat from the sun?

Yes / No What style(s)?

EXTERIOR

1. Begin at one corner of your home and walk clockwise around the exterior of your home. **Now is a good time to draw your home on Page 5 of this checklist.**
2. Verify that weather stripping and caulking are applied properly and in good condition around doors and windows – especially on the top of window and doorframes
3. Examine areas where different building materials meet, such as brick and wood siding. Check foundations, walls and between the chimney and siding.

★ H&S Are there obvious signs of moisture **anywhere** outside your home? **Yes / No** Please describe where. Use additional paper if necessary. Photos may be helpful.

★ H&S Have you tested the exterior painted surfaces for lead-based paint (LBP)? **Yes / No**
What was the results?

DID YOU KNOW: Cracked and peeling paint may indicate a high moisture load.

★ H&S Count your windows _____ and doors _____?
Is any glass broken? **Yes / No** Where? _____
Frame material (wood, aluminum, fiberglass, etc)
Panels of glass (single, double, triple)?
Describe how the windows open.
 Out; Up; Down; In and out

- Does the land 10 feet around your foundation slope away from the house? **Yes / No**
During the rainy season, does water pool near your home? **Yes / No**
- Note the condition of your concrete foundation. Is there any visible damage? **Yes / No**
Look for signs of water or intrusion, such as spalling.
- Are exhaust vent(s) visible from the ground outside?
Yes / No
Where? _____
- Do exhaust vents present any possible safety problems (e.g. like a missing cap)? **Yes / No**

- If your home has a fireplace or wood/coal stove, does the chimney meet the recommended height requirement? (Usually higher than the peak of the roof.) **Yes / No**
- Is your siding original? **Yes / No**
What kind of siding is on the home (for example, clapboard, stucco, plywood, log, or some combination.)?

Generally describe the condition of your siding.

What is the approximate age? _____
- Does your home have gutters, downspout(s), splash blocks or gravel
What condition are the gutters in?

When was the last time they were cleaned? _____
- Is all passive venting in good condition (for example gable and eave vents)?

- What kind of roof is on your home? E.g.: traditional, standing tin, composite, shake or torch down, or please describe: _____
Are any shingles or sections of roofing material damaged or missing?
How old is your roof? _____
- Does your home have protruding construction features? (For example: addition(s), porches, attached garage or cantilevers?) If so, please describe (use additional paper or pictures as necessary) **Yes / No** Describe:

ATTICS & CRAWL SPACES (UNCONDITIONED SPACES)

Be sure to wear your N-95 respirator, long sleeves, and hat. Bring your flashlight or headlamp too.

★ H&S Look for signs of moisture on the roof deck, at the eaves and/or gables, and around vents and penetrations.

★ H&S Are there signs of animals, pests or rodents in the crawl space or attic? **Yes / No**
Describe the conditions in the space.

Is the crawl space wet? **Yes / No** Damp? **Yes / No**

CAUTION: moisture problems **must** be solved before weatherization measures can be installed.

★ H&S Examine the electrical wiring.

- Are splices made in j-boxes. **Yes / No**
Do wires compress insulation? **Yes / No**
All j-boxes are covered with an appropriately sized cover. **Yes / No**

CAUTION: Taped and uncovered wiring splices are fire hazards and must be placed in a junction box (j-box) before weatherizing.

★ H&S Are any wires frayed or damaged?
Does the house have knob and tube wiring? **Yes / No**

★ H&S Verify that all exhaust fans vent to the outside and not just into the attic or crawl space. **Yes/No**

★ H&S Identify other hazards such as vermiculate (potentially asbestos) pipe insulation or vermin or pest droppings.

- Is your attic used for storage? **Yes / No**
Does your attic have a floor? **Yes / No**
Describe the attic hatch:
 lift up, hinged, stairs/ladder.
Is the attic hatch insulated? **Yes / No**

- Identify major air bypasses in construction features. Such as: knee walls, soffits, open wall cavities, or other attic bypasses.
Describe: _____

DID YOU KNOW: Dirty insulation is often a sign of a break in the air boundary.

- Look for signs of breaks in the attic's air boundary. Does the insulation appear dirty or disturbed? Check around all edges and penetrations. dirty, disturbed

DID YOU KNOW: A common area to inspect for thin insulation is around or near the gable or eave vents.

- Are all passive venting (e.g. gable and eave vents) in good condition? **Yes / No** Identify any broken coverings:

- Describe the duct work in your attic or crawl space:

Are any seams of the ducts broken or loose? **Yes / No**
Was metal backed tape or mastic used to seal the seams?
Yes / No

TO IDENTIFY ACTUAL AIR LEAKS, TRY THE DIY DEPRESSURIZATION SMOKE TEST

*(for best results try this on a cool, windy day.)**

1. Close all exterior doors, windows and fireplace flues.
2. Turn off all combustion appliances, including gas burning furnaces and water heaters. NOTE: if you do not want to turn off your furnace, you can omit step 2 and go to step 3.
3. Turn on all exhaust fans that blow air outside, like bathroom fans or range hoods.
4. Light a smoke or incense stick and pass it around the edges of common leak areas identified in the workshop. If smoke is drawn into or out of a room, then there is an air leak.
5. Track the smoke until you can identify the likely source of the air leak.

**Adopted from DOE EERE's Guide to Home Energy Assessments FACTSHEET*

CONDITIONED SPACE(S)

1. Look in, under, and around everything. At every crack and every seam. Move furniture if you have to. Examine the holes in cabinets, around plumbing pipes/fixtures, electrical sockets, light sockets (both on walls and ceilings), and doors and windows.
2. Visualize the presence and location of thermal (insulation) and air (pressure) boundaries.

★ H&S Is there any evidence of indoor moisture or air quality problems? **Yes / No**

Identify the source(s). (use additional paper if necessary).

★ H&S Do all receptacles and switches have power? **Yes / No** If no, describe:

Do any of your switches or receptacles chronically trip breakers or blow fuses? **Yes / No** If yes, describe:

Identify any other possible electrical hazards that may impact weatherization work or workers?

Visualize the presence and location of thermal (insulation) and air (pressure) boundaries. Use your imagination as you answer the following questions:

Identify obvious large air leaks. (For example: broken glass, missing attic hatch covers, broken drywall on ceilings or walls, or holes in the floor.)

Inspect the area around electrical switch plates, outlets, windows and door frames, baseboards, attic hatches, holes for room-sized air-conditioners, mail chutes, and any entrance for electrical, plumbing, cable, or phone line. Look for air penetrations around ceiling fans, recessed lights or light fixtures. Check for insulation in the walls. Identify any opportunities for air sealing. (use additional paper if necessary).

DID YOU KNOW: To look above ceiling tiles or fluorescent light covers that may conceal hidden air leaks and penetrations. Check access doors, closets and cabinet interiors for gaping holes in the air barrier.

What is your home's primary heat source?

If the appliance (stove, water heater, fireplace, furnace) burns fossil fuel (propane, natural gas, coal or wood) can you determine if it is properly vented to the outside?

Yes No Not Sure

Do you use a secondary heat source? **Yes / No**
If yes, describe:

CAUTION: No weatherization work should be performed where there is an unvented gas or liquid fuel space heater as the primary heat source.

Is your water heater (please circle):

Natural Gas / Propane / Electric?

What temperature or setting is it set to? _____

Estimate when it was drained last? _____

Does your home have mechanical ventilation? (Check all that apply:) exhaust fans, forced hot air furnace, or an indoor air filtration/ circulation system.

Do you use a portable room A/C or window A/C unit(s), evaporative cooler, heat pump or some combination of these for cooling in the summer?

Does your clothes dryer vent to the outside and beyond the crawl space, skirting, or attic? **Yes / No**

Describe the dryer duct: Vinyl Flexible Hose,

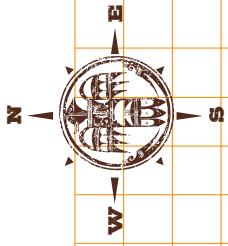
Aluminum Flexible Hose, Semi-Rigid Aluminum,

Smooth Metal, None/Missing

Is the venting attached at the wall? **Yes / No**

Estimate the number of bends in the exhaust pipe before it reaches the outside. _____

DRAW YOUR HOME



<p>OPTIONAL: What is the AREA and VOLUME of the conditioned space? Area = Length x Width of each room/space. _____</p> <p>Volume = Length x Width x Height of each room/ space. Add together all the rooms. _____</p>
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1 square = 1 foot



EXTERIOR

ATTICS & CRAWL (Unconditioned) **SPACES**

INSIDE (Conditioned) **SPACES**
