



Berkshire County Boards of Health Association Cooling Assistance Program

With funding from the New England Rural Health Association and the Berkshire Public Health Alliance to address heat emergencies for older adults and other vulnerable people, the Williamstown Board of Health has obtained five small portable air conditioners and five fans to distribute to Williamstown residents at no cost to those at high risk who don't have access to or resources to purchase this equipment.

This program is intended to provide one cool space in a home where residents can retreat during the worst of the heat and humidity.

Eligibility factors include age, disabilities, harder-to-cool homes, and household income. An application is attached.

Research shows that people over 65, small children, pregnant women, and those with disabilities are more at risk during extended high heat and humidity days and nights. Our bodies become exhausted trying to cool down. Vulnerable, at-risk people need to cool down below 75°F for at least four hours daily to mitigate the causes of heat illnesses.

If you or someone you know meets the criteria of this program, please don't hesitate to apply.

Questions?

Please contact Health Inspector, Ruth B. Russell via phone at (413)597-8074 or via email at russell@williamstownma.gov.

Helpful links:

NatGrid Payment Assistance Program:

<https://www.nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs>

Heat Emergencies:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/extreme-heat-safety-tips>

Home Energy Efficiency Programs:

<https://www.masssave.com/en/residential/rebates-and-incentives/heating-and-cooling>



Town of Williamstown
Community Development Department
31 North Street
Williamstown, MA 01267
Phone/Fax: (413) 458 -9344



Board of Health

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For people who are vulnerable to heat emergencies and are living on low incomes in homes without a/c. Portable A/C units and box fans will be distributed to eligible applicants without cost. Applicants will be responsible for electric costs and annual maintenance.

Applicant Information:

Full name:	_____	Date:	_____
	Last First M.I.		
Address:	_____	Phone:	_____
	Street address Apt/Unit #		
	_____	Email:	_____
	City State Zip Code		

Is your individual household income below \$38,391 or your household income below \$72,565 per year? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is anyone in your home age 65 & over? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are there children aged 6 and under in the home? Yes ☐ No ☐ How many?

Are there residents in your home with disabilities? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, explain:

Do you rent? If so, has your landlord permitted the installation of an AC unit? Yes ☐ No ☐ ☐ Not Applicable

Does your home have any of the following: Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, explain:
Attic or top floor bedroom, poor insulation, south or west facing windows with no curtains, porches or shade around building.

Attestation:

☐ I do hereby certify under the pains & penalties of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct. I understand that this offer is first come first serve and that the products offered are in limited supply.

☐ I understand a 5,000 btu a/c will on average add approximately \$20 - 25 per month to my electric bill, depending on usage and area cooled.

Signature _____

Date _____

Submit application in person at Williamstown Municipal Building Community Development Department (31 North Street, 3rd Floor) or via email to Ruth B. Russell at rrussell@williamstownma.gov.

If you are selected to receive a Portable A/C & Fan, we will reach out to you to schedule a time for you to pick up. If you are unable to pick up your Portable A/C & Fan, arrangements can be made to deliver the units to your residence. Please note, installation is not included as part of delivery.

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SIMPLE WINDOW KIT INSTALLATION

