



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 13, 2009

Contact:
Jessica Welch
Office of Policy & Public Information
(850) 926-0919

Wakulla County Weatherization Assistance Program Assists Local Resident With Energy Efficiency



Crawfordville, Florida – Wakulla County participated with the State of Florida, Department of Community Affairs today in weatherizing a home in Wakulla County. The weatherized home will decrease the cost of energy for the single mother of three in need, while improving the health and safety of their home. “This is very exciting to be a part of and seeing first hand the savings associated with energy efficiency is

exhilarating”, commented Commissioner Lynn Artz. The New York Times media was present to cover the story. Wakulla County was chosen by the State of Florida, Department of Community Affairs to showcase the program’s success in an upcoming edition.

The County Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. WAP funding is provided through the Department of Energy and distributed through the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA). This program helps income-eligible households improve energy efficiency by installing new weather stripping, insulation for attics and walls, repairs for drafty windows and doors, and new energy efficient heating and cooling systems. The assistance is offered at no cost to qualified homeowners, those who own mobile homes, and renters.

Approximately \$5,000 was spent in weathering this mobile home. The improvements made today included, installation of solar film window tint, replacement of doors and windows, mobile home roof insulation, cleaning and servicing of the air condition unit, patching and repairing duct work, and sealing joints of the mobile home together. These repairs are expected to reduce the homeowner’s energy bill by fifty percent. “This is a great program for low income families to help reduce their energy burden, in addition to

creating a safer home. We look forward to assisting more citizens in the County with this program”, said Robin Dias, Weatherization Coordinator.

Wakulla County is slated to receive \$1.7 million in July 2009 in WAP funding over the next 3 years from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Currently, the County weatherizes anywhere from 25-45 homes annually, this will now allow an additional 200 households to be weatherized annually in Wakulla County.

For more information and to see if you’re eligible for the Weatherization Assistance Program, please contact Robin Dias at 926-6292 or by e-mail rdias@mywakulla.com