



NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

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PARMA ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES STILL AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS

(PARMA) – Funding is still available from the City of Parma’s Energy Efficiency Rebate Program. City officials say assistance has been provided to more than 800 residents for Energy Star appliances, new doors and new windows through rebates. The dollar amount distributed to date is nearly \$140,000.

“This is one of those programs that has a direct impact on helping residents stretch their purchasing power when every dollar counts,” said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “The program initially began last November and has been a great success in helping residents doing the right thing – making their homes more energy efficient.”

Mayor DePiero says the innovative project is designed to help Parma homeowners and business owners reduce the cost of making energy efficient home and/or building improvements including cash rebates on the purchase of appliances. The City of Parma has provided one rebate of \$4500.00 to a business for energy efficient lighting. More than \$34,000 has been distributed to homeowners for major projects such as new roofs and window replacement.

The rebate program was created from a federal grant of more than \$700,000. It offers cash rebates on Energy Star qualified appliance such as clothes washers (\$150), refrigerators (\$150), dish washers (\$150) and freezers (\$50) and even expands to energy efficient hot water tanks, entrance doors (\$50), windows (\$25) and whole house insulation (\$500). There is a \$750 maximum rebate limit per household. Retail outlets have promoted the appliance rebate program in local newspaper advertising supplements.

“As I have said before, the grant gave us the option of using the funds to make public buildings energy efficient or passing the money on to local homeowners to do the same,” said Mayor DePiero. “It’s my opinion that passing the savings on to our residents was the smart thing to do. It would also be smart for those who can, to act now before the money runs out.”

(more)

In addition, the City of Parma's 2011 Furnace Inspection Voucher Program starts August 1st. The City will be giving out 125 total vouchers worth \$80 towards the inspection and cleaning of furnaces. To be eligible, you must be a Parma homeowner with all household occupants being age 65 or over.

And finally, homeowners can still take advantage of utilizing the Columbia Gas Home Performance Solutions Program. In many cases, insulating an entire home will mean far less time to recuperate your initial investment. Owners of commercial buildings can also take part in the program through rebates and loans to make energy efficient lighting and heating improvements. Low interest loans for large scale residential and commercial projects are also available.

The rebate program is only for Parma residents and business owners, and rebates apply to any qualifying energy home improvement or appliance. The rebate program will end when all funds are exhausted. Mayor DePiero encourages all interested parties to visit www.cityofparma-oh.gov/energy.aspx, www.ColumbiaGasOhio.com/HPS and www.energystar.gov for information on applications, qualifying products and services. For City of Parma rebate information call (216) 661-7372. For information on Columbia Gas Home Performance Solutions call (877) 644-6674.

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