



# Winter Survival Kit

November 2008

*The resources listed below are available to people residing in Somerville and Cambridge during the winter months. For more information on any of the programs listed below please contact the specific provider.*

## FUEL ASSISTANCE



**City of Cambridge Dept of Human Services..... 617-349-6252**

[www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/fuelassistance.cfm](http://www.cambridgema.gov/DHSP2/fuelassistance.cfm)

The Fuel Assistance Program provides financial assistance for people in Cambridge and Somerville. Eligibility is based on income.

1 person household can make no more than \$20,800

2 person household can make no more than \$28,000

Call or check out the website for more details about eligibility and how to apply. Program runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30th.

**Fuel Assistance Heat Line ..... 1-800-632-8175**

Call for information about local fuel assistance agencies.

**Citizens Energy Oil ..... 1-877-563-4645**

**CALLS FOR PROGRAM WILL NOT BE TAKEN UNTIL DECEMBER 1, 2008**

The Citizens Energy Oil Heat Program offers half-price heating oil to low-income families and the elderly. Each eligible household is allowed a one-time delivery of up to 200 gallons of home heating oil per heating season at forty percent (40%) off.

There are no strict income limits. You must meet these requirements to be eligible:

- You are facing a financial hardship.
- You heat with oil.
- You are a resident of Massachusetts.
- You have not bought fuel oil from Citizens Energy during this heating season.

Call the City of Cambridge and ask for the Citizens Energy Oil Heat Program or call Citizens Energy Oil directly. Numbers are listed above.

### Utility Discounts

Many gas and electric companies have low income discount programs (up to 35% off each bill) with automatic qualification going to those who receive TAFDC, food stamps, Masshealth, SSI, Fuel Assistance, and EAEDC. To apply for these discounts, call your gas and electric company.

## Good Neighbor Energy Fund

Salvation Army..... 617-547-3400

Low-income households who are not eligible for fuel assistance may be eligible for a one-time only, up to \$100 toward gas or electric bills. Program starts January 1, 2009 and is available until funds run out. Call and ask to speak with Julie Baker to apply for these funds.

## WEATHERIZATION AND HEATING SYSTEM SERVICES



**Menotomy Weatherization** ..... 781-316-3436

Weatherization Services can install attic and/or wall insulation and perform air-sealing measures to prevent heat loss from your home. It is a free service, eligibility is based on income:

1 person household can make no more than \$26,651

2 person household can make no more than \$34,851

**Any household in which a member receives SSI or TAFDC is automatically eligible for weatherization**

In order to apply, you need to have your income verified through the City of Cambridge Fuel Assistance Department at 617-349-6252. This program is available to both homeowners and tenants (with landlord permission).

### Heartwap Program

Repairs or replaces your primary heating system. In order to qualify for this assistance, you must meet the income guidelines for fuel assistance. See above.

**NSTAR – Electric/Gas Company for Cambridge** .....[www.nstaronline.com](http://www.nstaronline.com)

Customer Service ..... 800-592-2000

Emergency..... 800-572-9337

**NATIONAL GRID – Electric/Gas Company for Somerville** ...[www.nationalgrid.com](http://www.nationalgrid.com)

Customer Service ..... 781-751-3000

Emergency..... 800-231-5325

## SNOW REMOVAL



**City of Cambridge Snow Exemption Program** ..... 617-349-6220

*For homeowners with low incomes who are elderly or disabled.*

*1 person household \$23,475, 2 person household \$33,217*

*If eligible, the Department of Public Works clears their **sidewalk only**. The DPW never clears the path or steps or any other part of their private property. To apply, call the Council on Aging's number listed above.*

**Cambridge Council on Aging ..... 617-349-6220**

*The Council on Aging gathers a list of high school students who are interested in shoveling snow for a fee. Contact the Council on Aging to make a request for snow shoveling.*

**Cambridge Landscape Co. .... 617-661-8591**

*Provides plowing only. Phone in advance for estimate. Provides no special senior discount*

**Dependable Fence Co. .... 617-625-8727**

*Provides plowing only. Phone in advance for estimate.*

**International Elders ..... 617-469-4640**

*Provides shoveling and plowing. Phone in advance for estimate. For Cambridge residents only*

**Snowman Plowing Co. .... 888-625-2706**

*Call in advance and a worker will come out and give a price estimate. Client will be added to the company's snow route for after a storm. If clients mention that they were referred by SCES, they will get a discount.*

**Sidewalk Hotline ..... 617-349-4903**

*To report unshovelled or icy sidewalks in your community, leave the address of the residence or commercial building in front of the sidewalk that needs attention.*