

Hello, I am Carole Plumb and here by way of MassEnergize of Wayland and the Sierra Club. Our household has used MASS Save twice to update the insulation in our house built in 1955, first between floors and sills, then on the outside envelope and hopefully this summer to replace a 45 year old oil furnace. With new insulation fuel oil use dropped by almost half and drafts greatly reduced which improved the comfort of my 90 year old mother.

I hesitated to sign up for MASS Save but decided if the contractors were state inspected for quality it should be OK. Having been caring for multiple senior family members, I know how unlikely they would be to consider updating a house without a big nudge from someone (me). I am fortunate to live where I got the needed small nudge from Wayland Energize volunteers.

MassSave needs to do outreach to people in older houses and rentals who really could use the help but are overwhelmed at where to start. Not everyone is versed in home improvement. They will however copy their neighbors who have a good outcome. As with solar and heat pumps going in our town, once a few people do it, the whole neighborhood starts to follow suit.

Last summer I had MASS Energize suggesting an air source heat pump for heating and a/c while the MassSave contractors were encouraging a gas furnace replacement and new a/c. To get to the goal of zero net emissions, no point in supporting a natural gas package. The program administrators should implement clear performance metrics and rewards such as those specified in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) EEAC Equity Working Group (EWG) blueprint. Thank you for your consideration.