

## LANCASTER 2016 OIL HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sponsored by Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development

Administered by Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC)

The Town of LANCASTER is offering LANCASTER OIL HEAT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LOHAP) at no-cost to low income residents of Lancaster who heat their homes with oil. Program eligibility is based on total household income and size. Residents who live in **BLOCK GROUPS 1 AND 2** will be prioritized. (See map attached)

WHO – If your income falls within the guidelines below **AND** you are a homeowner or renter residing in the Block Groups 1 or 2 you may apply for assistance. If you are a renter your heating costs must be separate from your rent. If your income falls **BELOW** the amounts in Table 1 below, you may apply for assistance to this program but you are encouraged to apply to the **NEW ENGLAND FARM WORKERS COUNCIL** (NEFWC) Fuel Assistance Program. <http://www.partnersforcommunity.org/> If your income is **ABOVE** the amounts in Table 1 but **BELOW** the amounts in Table 2 you qualify for LOHAP. If you are eligible for NEFWC, once your benefit through NEFWC is exhausted or the benefit period ends you may receive assistance from LOHAP.

WHAT – **ONLY RESIDENTS WHO USE OIL AS THEIR PRIMARY SOURCE OF HEAT** may receive assistance from LOHAP. Eligible households can receive up to \$750 in assistance. Once you are approved, your home heating oil vendor, or another approved vendor, will be notified. When you need oil simply call your vendor. Your LOHAP account will be credited.

WHEN - The benefit period is from November 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. Applications will be taken throughout this period. If you receive a fuel delivery before the date of this application but not before October 1, 2015 you may receive a credit for that payment if you are eligible and the vendor is qualified. Program funds may be exhausted before the end of the program period.

WHERE – Applicants to the separate Housing Rehabilitation program are receiving a LOHAP application along with this notice. You can also find applications at:

- Lancaster Town Hall or online at <http://www.ci.lancaster.ma.us>
- MRPC 1427R Water St Fitchburg or online at [www.mrpc.org](http://www.mrpc.org)
- Contact Brian Keating, Community Development Manager at MRPC at (978) 345-7376 x305 or [bkeating@mrpc.org](mailto:bkeating@mrpc.org)

HOW – Eligible applicants will be scheduled for intake appointments on a first-come first-served basis. When we schedule the appointment we will provide you with a list of required documentation. You will need to have a copy of a photo id of all adult members of the household during intake. You will also need to document all household income for the four weeks prior to the date of intake. We will schedule intake appointments at The Lancaster Community Center for applicants who are unable to travel to the MRPC office in Fitchburg.

TABLE 1: LIHEAP (NEFWC) INCOME GUIDELINES – If your total household income is under:

Household size	1 Person	2 person	3 Person	4 person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 person
Income	\$32,618	\$42,654	\$52,691	\$62,727	\$72,763	\$82,800	\$84,681	\$86,563

You are eligible for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Please call New England Farm Workers Council (NEFWC) at (978) 342-4520.

TABLE 2: LOHAP INCOME GUIDELINES - If your total household income is more than that in the table above but under:

Household size	1 Person	2 person	3 Person	4 person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 person
Income	\$46,100	\$52,650	\$59,250	\$65,800	\$71,100	\$76,350	\$81,600	\$86,900

You qualify for LOHAP.

See the enclosed map. This shows the target area, Block Groups 1 and 2 in Lancaster. On the map it is shown as the area within the outlined border and is labeled 713100-1 and 713100-2. If you need help reading the map, please do not hesitate to call Brian Keating at MRPC (978) 345-7376 x 305.