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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION, ENERGY \$AVING PARTNERS AND HOUSING RESOURCES OF WESTERN COLORADO CELEBRATE WEATHERIZATION DAY

Ad Council's Energy Hog to Visit Grand Junction Home on October 25

Grand Junction, CO, October 25, 2004 – The Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) wants to raise awareness of weatherization which provides free energy efficiency services to income-qualified recipients. Energy Saving Partners (ESP), a program of OEMC, delivers services statewide. On October 25, "Weatherization Day," a national event, will be celebrated in Grand Junction and Housing Resources of Western Colorado (HRWC), the local weatherization agency, will demonstrate energy saving measures on a local home.

The Energy Hog will join Grand Junction's "Weatherization Day" celebrations. The Energy Hog is the "Spokes Villain" for the Ad Council's national energy savings campaign, which is targeted to children. The Ad Council has created famous campaigns such as "Smokey Bear" and "Crash Test Dummies." The Energy Hog puts a face to the invisible concept of wasting energy, and is a character that kids love to hate. Children can learn more about the Energy Hog and energy issues at www.energyhog.org.

The event begins at 10:30 a.m. at 540 Pinon Court. The Energy Hog will conduct the tour of the energy efficiency measures done at the home. Also, the Energy Hog will point out tips on other ways to lower utility bills.

At the home, HRWC technicians will determine the most cost-effective weatherization measures. They will conduct a computerized energy audit and use advanced diagnostic technologies such as blower doors and duct blasters. HRWC will assess related health and safety conditions like carbon monoxide levels. HRWC will implement weatherization services such as wall and ceiling insulation, efficient lighting, and others, which have proven to reduce the average monthly energy bill by 15 to 30 percent.

"Energy efficient homes are the best way to fight the rising cost of energy. Weatherization services reduce the energy burden on Colorado's neediest families and produce warmer, safer and more affordable homes," said Jeff Ackermann, program manager of Energy Saving Partners. "Weatherization Day allows us to promote energy efficiency and we are happy to have the Ad Council's Energy Hog join in this educational effort in Grand Junction."



Weatherization Day in Grand Junction, cont'd

For the past 28 years, weatherization has provided Colorado's neediest families with safe, warm, comfortable homes through energy saving measures. Weatherization is funded through the US Department of Energy, Colorado Department of Human Services, and utilities such as Xcel Energy, Inc.

Almost 90,000 homes have been weatherized in Colorado. Colorado has eight agencies, with trained staff to conduct energy audits and implement cost-effective energy efficient upgrades to every region of the state. Each year HRWC weatherizes approximately 400 homes.

Grand Junction is the first event in the state to celebrate Weatherization Day, with following events being held in Denver, October 26; Leadville, October 27; and in Longmont on October 28. For more information or how to qualify for weatherization services, contact E\$P at 1-888-HEATLINE or in Grand Junction, call HRWC at (970) 241-2871. We encourage you and your children to visit the Energy Hog online at www.energyhog.org.

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