

HOME REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE

1) CENTER FOR ECOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY

www.cetonline.org

*112 Elm Street 1-800-238-1221
Pittsfield, MA 01201 413-445-4556
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

CET, a community based non-profit organization, has been working since 1976 to help individuals, businesses, schools and communities reduce our environmental impact. CET provides education and assistance in recycling, composting, using less toxic products, energy conservation, and renewable resources. Services include: Home energy surveys and weatherization in partnership with local utility companies; sales of energy efficient lighting, weatherization, water conservation products, and recycled paper. Home Heating Oil Co-op; ReStore Home Improvement Center in Springfield for affordable renovation materials; Office Paper Recycling and Document Destruction.

2) HOMEOWNER OPTIONS FOR MASSACHUSETTS ELDERS (HOME)

*Berkshire County Regional Housing Authority 413-443-7138
150 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

A comprehensive housing counseling service to help low and moderate income elderly homeowners make informed housing decisions. Assists elders in identifying a wide variety of options in planning for their immediate and future housing needs, home repair, social service, legal assistance, and follow-up.

3) MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND

*436 Dwight Street 413-781-1290
Springfield, MA 01103 1-800-332-2772
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:45a.m. - 5 p.m.*

Provides services to legally blind individuals from birth to elderly. Services include information and referral, home rehabilitation, teaching, vocational rehabilitation, orientation and mobility (white cane), social services, individualized case management, aids and appliances, medical assistance through Mass Health, assistance with access to community resources including transportation and handicapped placards, and assistance with tax exemptions and abatements. Service area is the four western Massachusetts counties, Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden.

4) NORTH ADAMS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

*10 Main Street, Room 221 413-662-3025
North Adams, MA 01247
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(Closes at 1:00 p.m. on Fridays during the summer.)*

Offers low interest loans to low income persons and families, elderly and disabled and assists with loan applications. Loans can be used for certain home repairs.

5) PITTSFIELD DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

*City Hall 413-499-9367
70 Allen Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

Can provide assistance with housing rehabilitation to income-eligible residents of Pittsfield. Also handles fair housing issues.

6) USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

*195 Russell Street, Suite B7 413-585-1000, ext. 4
Hadley, MA 01035-9521
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

- **HOME OWNERSHIP:** A Direct Loan Program is available to low-income families and individuals who wish to purchase or build a home in a rural town. Borrowers receive a direct loan from Rural Development with the payments based on their income with no down payment required. Borrowers must be unable to obtain a homeownership loan from a bank or other conventional sources.
- **HOME REPAIR:** Home improvement and repair assistance loans are available to very low income applicants who currently own a home in a rural town. Funds are available for repairs, improvements, and the removal of health and safety hazards. Seniors 62 and older who cannot afford a loan may also qualify for a grant of up to \$7500.