

City of Minot  
Flood Recovery Press Release  
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## **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

### **Energy audits to be conducted on FEMA Temporary Housing Units**

**Minot, N.D.** – “Are FEMA Temporary Housing Units really built to handle frigid North Dakota winters?” Flood-affected Minot-area residents have been asking this question in recent weeks. A coalition of concerned entities set out to answer this question and help provide information to Minot residents to address high heating costs they might experience this winter.

**The media is invited to observe an energy audit first-hand.** Home energy auditors from the Community Action Partnership (CAP) - Minot Region will be available **December 20** to conduct an audit and discuss the results.

**Media is invited to 121 18<sup>th</sup> St. SE in Minot at 9 a.m., to observe a home energy audit, at the temporary housing of Chris and Jerusha Schiessl.**

CAP performed an energy audit on December 7 on a 12x32 foot Temporary Housing Unit (THU) at a separate private Minot residence. According to CAP, the audit showed the home is tighter than the standard building tightness limit (BTL). A blower door reading was performed and showed a lower-than-average number based on the volume of the THU (lower is better). An infrared scan of the home revealed only minor temperature differences and relatively no duct leakages after the pressure pan reading. Skirting and insulation were inspected and the home was found to be well-insulated. The thermal pane windows registered an R-value of 2.85—a typical window R-factor for a northern climate.

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Based on the audit results, CAP recommended homeowners take the following measures since the home is tighter than average:

- Leave exhaust fans running at least 20 minutes after showering and when cooking to minimize moisture build-up in the homes.
- NEVER use an unvented propane or kerosene heater inside the unit. A dangerous build-up of carbon monoxide could occur.
- For safety reasons, avoid using electric space heaters.
- Try to limit the number of times the door is opened and closed to keep heat inside the home.
- Consider adding quilted or lined window treatments or window film to add insulating value and address any drafty areas around windows.

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