



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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September 21, 2015

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LIHEAP OFFERS HELP WITH ENERGY COSTS

ROCKFORD, IL – Information is now available for the annual Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for eligible residents in Winnebago and Boone Counties. LIHEAP pays a benefit directly to energy companies on behalf of eligible households or directly to eligible renters if all energy costs are included in their rent.

There are many area sites that will be taking phone calls for appointments during the LIHEAP season. Handouts with site lists, program information, eligibility criteria and call-in schedules are available at the City of Rockford Human Services Department, 555 N. Court St., Suite 301, Belvidere City Hall, 401 Whitney Blvd. and the Boone County United Way, 220 W. Locust St. Information may also be found at www.rockfordil.gov. Eligible households must have this information before calling to make an appointment.

Residents can begin calling the sites serving their category on the following dates to make an appointment:

- Thursday, October 1, 2015 for seniors and disabled households;
- Monday, November 2, 2015 for disconnected households and households with children under 6 years old; and
- Tuesday, December 1, 2015 for the general public.

Residents who are not able to receive an appointment during their category month can continue to call monthly on the dates listed on the site list, or until funds are exhausted.

Please note that LIHEAP begins a month later this season and there are changes to the benefits in the program which are listed in the handout. Also, the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) will not be an option offered to eligible clients at this time.

LIHEAP is a program of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Office of Energy Assistance funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and administered locally by the City of Rockford Human Services Department, A Community Action Agency.