



# Information Session: Energize – Community Spaces



King County Climate Team  
January 22, 2026

# Agenda



- Energize Program Overview
- Energize – Community Spaces Overview
- Eligibility & Definitions
- Application Process
- Application Support
- Timeline
- Q & A

# Energize Program Overview

# Energize Programs



Energize programs install heat pumps and provide other upgrades in a variety of homes and building types in King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties.

**Energize is a direct service program, operated and paid for by King County. This is *not* a grant program.**

Adult Family Homes



Family Home Child Cares



Multifamily Homes



Community Spaces  
(Non-Govt. Owned)



# Program Review – Energize Programs



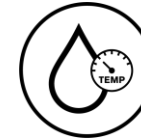
Heat Pump Space Heating



Weatherization



Heat Pump Water Heating



Appliance Upgrades



Decarbonization Planning



Adult Family Homes



Family Home Child Cares



Multifamily Homes

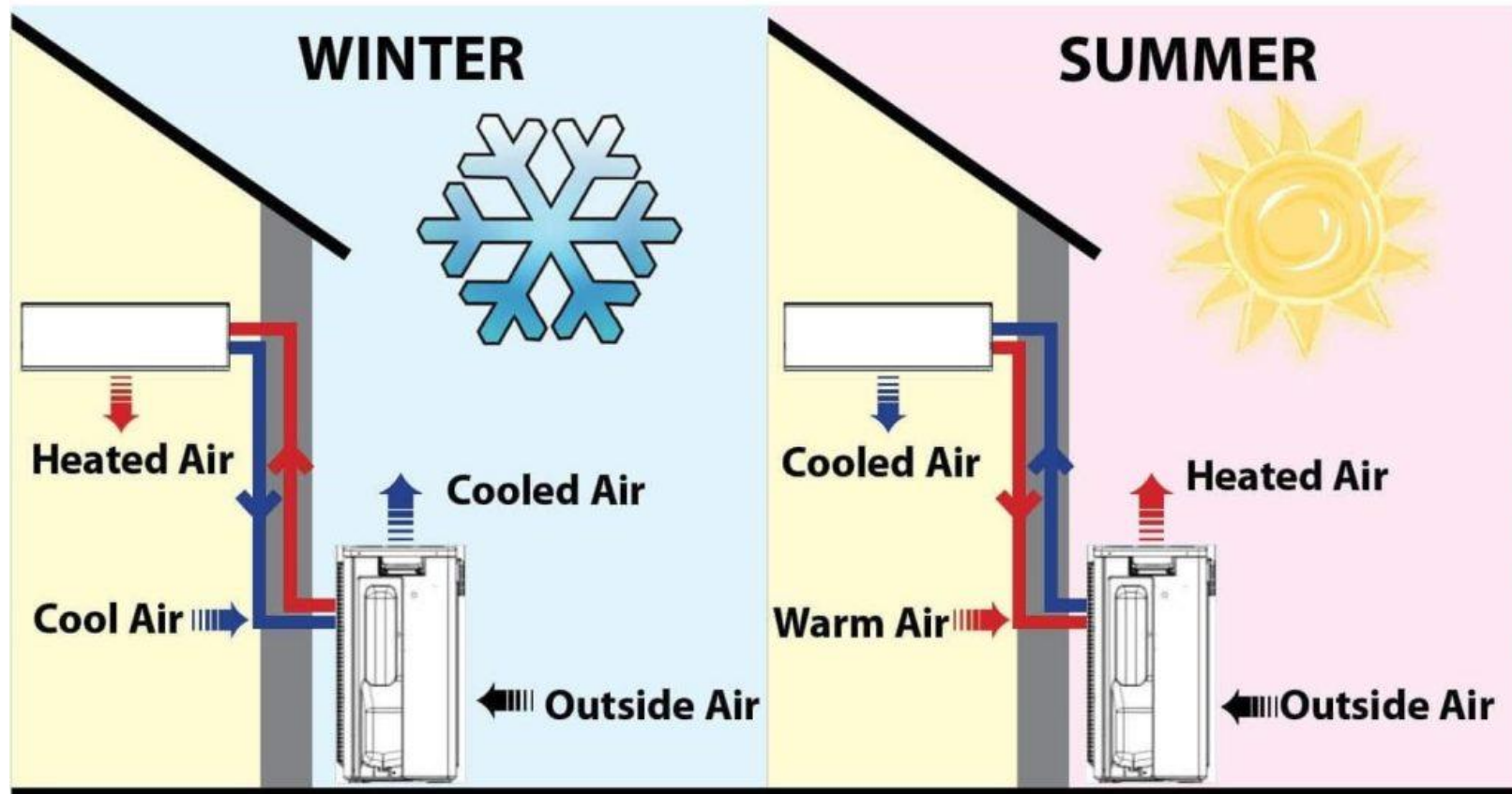


Community Spaces



Applications are open!

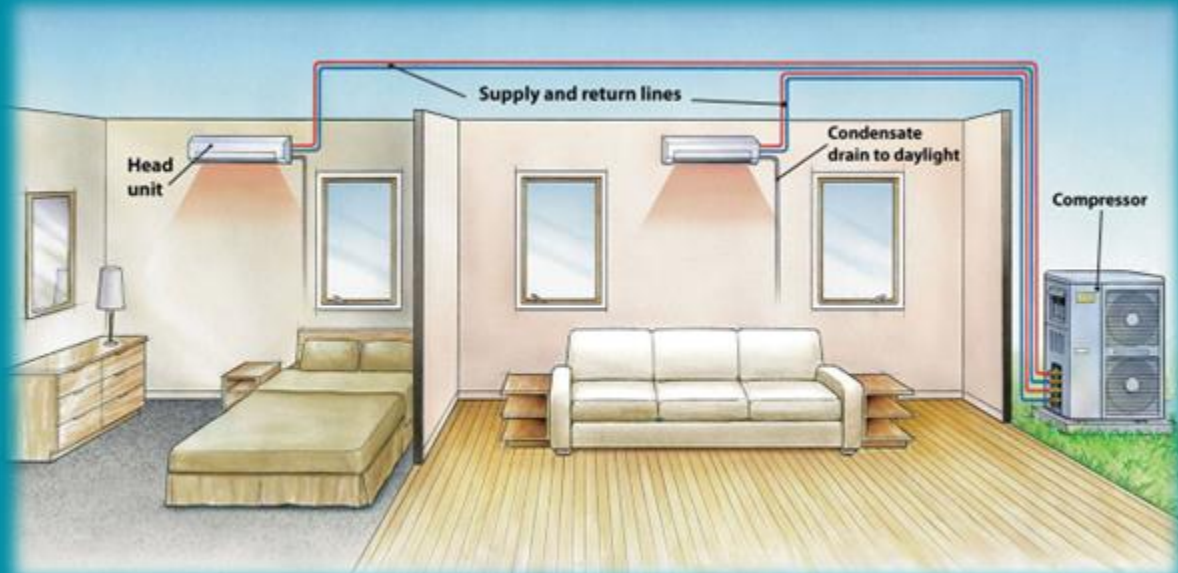
# What is a Heat Pump?



# Types of Heat Pumps

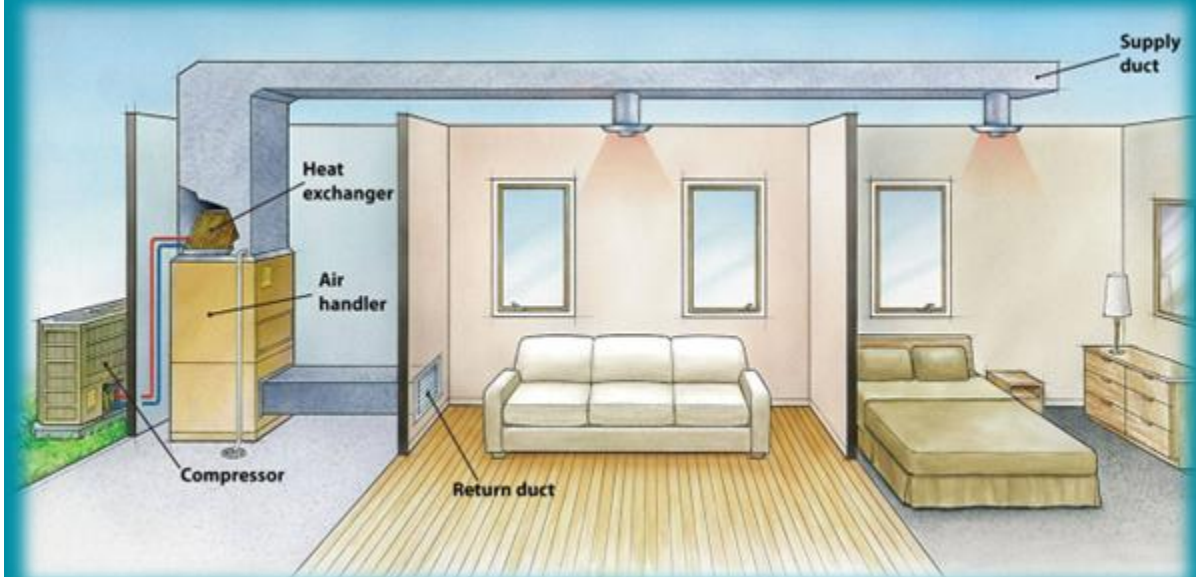


## Ductless Heat Pump



Typically installed in buildings *without* existing ductwork (e.g. homes heated with radiators)

## Ducted Heat Pump



Uses building's existing ductwork, *replaces* the existing furnace



# Energize – Community Spaces





# Energize – Community Spaces



## Objective

- Accelerate equitable climate action, while improving health, resilience, and access to green jobs, by electrifying and weatherizing non-government owned buildings that serve as community gathering spaces or provide in-person, onsite community services.

## Program Structure

- ~\$6 million to decarbonize community gathering spaces and buildings that provide community services
- Target of ~41 buildings across the four-county region (King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish)
- King County will cover 100% of costs of services and installations within the project scope. This includes managing all service and installation contractors and covering costs of equipment, materials, and labor.



# What Does Energize – Community Spaces Provide?



Program participants receive the following, depending on building needs...



Improved health, safety, and comfort through **weatherization upgrades**, such as insulation, ventilation, and air sealing



Installation of high efficiency air conditioning and heating systems, such as **electric heat pumps** that provide heating and cooling.



**Technical assistance** to better understand energy usage within a building, develop a plan to reduce GHG emissions and improve comfort of building occupants, and create a project plan for the installation of weatherization and electric heat pump heating/cooling systems.

# Target Number of Projects across Each County



King County	20
Kitsap County	2
Pierce County	11
Snohomish County	7
<b>TOTAL*</b>	<b>~41</b>

\*Not exact, due to rounding.

# Eligibility

# Who is eligible for this program?



## Eligibility

Non-government **community** entities that own, operate, or lease a building that meets the following criteria:

- Serves as a community gathering space or offers onsite, in-person community services (for example: foodbanks, places of worship, community centers, skills training centers, etc.)
- Is located in King, Kitsap, Pierce, or Snohomish Counties
- Is located in **or serves** frontline communities

## Priority Geographies

- Buildings located in and/or serving frontline communities (people disproportionately impacted by climate change)
- Buildings located in extreme heat mitigation priority areas

# Cost Coverage

# How much does the program cost? Is it free?



## Contractor Management & Cost Coverage

- It is free to participate in this program. The program will cover 100% of project costs for all services and installations (up to \$100,000) for program participants.
- King County will manage all services and installations, including covering the costs of equipment and materials, and hiring and paying contractors. This is not a grant program.

*Please note that completing an application does NOT guarantee acceptance into the program. Applicants will be notified if they are selected for acceptance into the program.*

# Definitions



# Definitions



## ***Buildings***

- Enclosed structures that are fully protected from the elements.

## ***Gathering spaces***

- Indoor areas in which large groups of people intentionally congregate (for example: community centers, community performing arts centers, school buildings, etc.).

## ***Spaces that provide community services***

- Indoor areas used for in-person, onsite activities that directly enable people to improve their lives (for example: skills training sites, food banks, libraries, etc.).

# Definitions



## ***Frontline Communities***

Communities located in any of the following geographies:

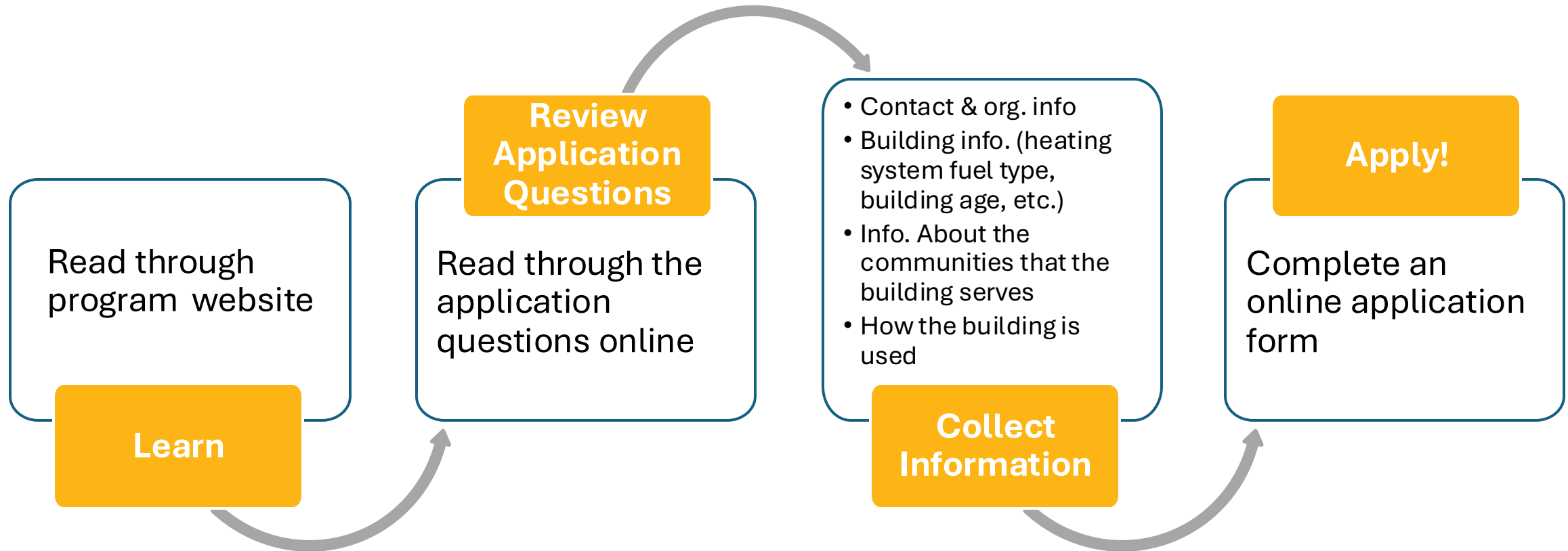
- Puget Sound Clean Air Agency overburdened communities
- WA Environmental Health Disparities Map score of 9 or more
- 2024 U.S. EPA defined low-income and disadvantaged communities

Generally, these geographies share poorer air and soil quality, higher noise pollution, closer proximity to hazardous waste treatment and storage facilities, and greater risk of related negative health outcomes. Additionally, they experience reduced resiliency to climate change.

[You can search your address on the map at the bottom of the Energize – Community Spaces website to see if your property is located in a frontline community geography.](#)

# Application

# How do I apply for this program?



# How will applications be evaluated?



Community	Building Characteristics	Pollution Reduction Potential	Climate Preparedness Potential	Narrative Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Located in or serving frontline communities</li><li>• Independent organization</li><li>• Serves population that speaks languages other than English</li><li>• Occupancy of building for multiple years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building age</li><li>• Avg. # of people that gather or are served in-person within the building per month</li><li>• Square footage of building</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heating system fuel type</li><li>• Age of heating system</li><li>• Water heating system fuel type</li><li>• Other fossil fuel appliances</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Located in an area that experiences extreme heat during summer</li><li>• Absence of air conditioning</li><li>• As a result of the project, the building provides additional climate resilience features</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Description of community that the building serves</li><li>• Description of how the building acts as a gathering space or offers onsite community services</li></ul>

# Is there support available to help me complete the application?



- Pre-application assistance to support entities in completing the application is available on a limited basis. The priority will be to support entities that are low-capacity and high-need.
- To request support filling out the application, please complete an Application Support Form (linked on the Energize – Community Spaces website)
- May include support for any of the following:
  - Understanding the program requirements and eligibility
  - Collecting information needed for the application, like building age, heating system type, etc.
  - Entering information into the application form

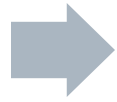
# Timeline

# Program Process & Participant Journey



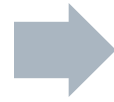
## Information Session

- Learn about the program
- Learn about heat pumps and energy efficiency benefits
- This is optional



## Program Application

- Online application
- Due April 20
- Scored based on heating fuel type, communities served, among other attributes
- Entities selected for the program will then be assigned to a technical assistance provider



## Technical Assistance

- Site visits to conduct energy and building assessment by project planners
- Decarbonization planning
- Project planning



## Installation

- Final program approval and participant agreements
- Installation of heat pumps and weatherization
- Post-install customer experience and impact evaluation



# Timeline: Energize – Community Spaces



	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Applications are Open	Jan 20 - Apr 20					
Application Review					May '26	
Earliest that Projects Begin (but may be later)						Jun '26



# THANK YOU!

## Have additional questions?

- Please email [CPRG@kingcounty.gov](mailto:CPRG@kingcounty.gov)
- Include “Energize - Community Spaces” in the subject line.

**Program website:** <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/executive/governance-leadership/climate-office/focus-areas/building-decarbonization/energize/community-spaces>

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