

# How to Make Your Home Climate Resilient



Regional Plan Association



# Everyday Resilience in Your Home

**The effects of climate change are visible throughout New York City.**

New Yorkers need to be able to prepare themselves for events like extreme weather, flooding, and increased heat waves. This booklet shows tenants simple, everyday steps that can be taken to better prepare and adapt for Climate Change. With these tips, you can take control and make sure you and your loved ones can practice resilience everyday.



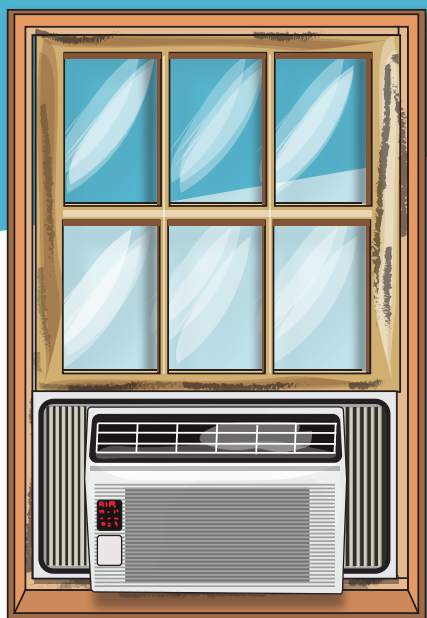
- ▶ Recycle any paper, cardboard, metal, glass and plastic items in your household instead of throwing them in the garbage.
- ▶ Recycle electronics at a City-designated drop off site.
- ▶ Compost food scraps to reduce organic material in our landfills.
- ▶ Use reusable bags, utensils, and food containers to cut down on single-use plastic waste.



- ▶ If possible, purchase local produce and food. Seek out community gardens which source local and organically-grown goods for you and your family.

- ▶ Prepare an emergency plan with your family.





- ▶ Install your AC unit with no gaps and clean your AC filter regularly to ensure energy efficiency.
- ▶ In the winter, open shades during the day and close them at night. In the summer, close shades during the day and open windows at night.

- ▶ Opt for Energy Star-labeled electronics and/or turn off and unplug appliances when not in use to lower energy bills.
- ▶ Request a new tree on your sidewalk through the MillionTreesNYC Initiative.



- ▶ Get renter's insurance to protect you from financial burdens caused by extreme weather events.
- ▶ Clean water spills and wet surfaces, especially in your bathroom, to prevent mold and mildew.
- ▶ Clear any sitting and stagnant water to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.



- ▶ Turn off the lights when leaving a room to save energy and money.

Share this knowledge with your friends and neighbors!



# Resources

## EmPower New York

EmPower New York provides free energy efficiency solutions to income-eligible renters regardless of immigration status. Contractors recognized by the Building Performance Institute (BPI) will visit the applicant's home to determine which solutions are needed, including insulation and high-efficiency lighting and appliances. **Call 1-877-NYSMART to apply.**

## New York State Weatherization Assistance Program

WAP provides financial assistance to income-eligible renters by reducing heating and cooling costs and addressing health and safety issues through energy-efficiency measures. By participating in the program, you can have access to services that reduce the amount of energy required to heat and cool your home and provide hot water. Households that receive public assistance, SNAP benefits, Supplemental Security Income, or Home Energy Assistance Program benefits are automatically eligible.

**Find out how to apply at: [hcr.ny.gov/weatherization-applicants](http://hcr.ny.gov/weatherization-applicants)**

## NYSERDA Solar for All

Through this program, income-eligible households can receive up to 15% in deductions from their electricity bill by subscribing to community solar. Additionally, participation does not require upfront costs, payment or fees. Solar for All allows residents to contribute to the health of their community by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting a cleaner, more enjoyable environment. You may qualify if your household has used at least 2,000 kWh in the last 12 months. Call 1-877-NYSMART to find out more and apply. **Call 1-877-NYSMART to apply.**



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