



Weatherization Guidance No. 41

Effective Date: December 11, 2018

Updated: April 1, 2022

Site-Specific Assessment Regarding Excessive Storage Conditions

The purpose of this guidance is to instruct agencies of updated policy regarding the determination of excessive storage conditions that would be cause for postponement or deferral of services.

This guidance pertains to all CT WAP Weatherization programs. If there are further questions, please contact your field representative.

Assessment and Deferral Criteria

Auditors are advised to carefully photo document all areas and conditions believed to cause for postponement of services. CT WAP will employ a Clutter Image Rating Scale to evaluate postponement and deferrals issued by the Subgrantee.

In addition, Auditors are instructed to utilize a Hoarding Risk Assessment Rating Tool (HOMES) to document their evaluation process as follows:

H - Does the number of stored materials pose any health risk to the occupants, workers or emergency responders?

O - Does the stored material create obstacles to safe movement of occupants, workers, or emergency responders?

M - Could Occupant mental health be a factor?

E - Do the conditions at the site present endangerment for the occupants, workers, or emergency responders?

S - Does the stored material appear to be present concerns related to the integrity of the structure or safe occupancy of the home?

HOMES Rating Scale

Category	Level-1	Level-2 (Immediate Response Needed)
Health Risk	*	
Obstacles		*
Mental Health Issues (Suspected)	*	
Endangerment	*	
Structural Safety	*	

Note: In all cases except obstacles, any level of concern could be the basis for postponement, deferral, or referral to other resources.

Obstacles that cannot be easily moved or negotiated should be classified as “Level-2” and should also be a basis for postponement, deferral, or referral to other resources.

Should the auditor and subgrantee determine that they are unable to reach a decision regarding the need to postpone services they should consult with the CT WAP technical Monitor and present all related information.