

The most recent energy data to date on our beloved town hall, the truck garage, and the equipment garage suggests that we are doing the right things in the right order. With the help of the people that work in those buildings, we have cut the oil use by 62%, 60%, and 36% respectively. That is truly amazing given the amount of money spent – a few hundred dollars on caulk & foam & window film, donated curtains & lumber, a couple programmable thermostats (<\$50ea), under \$5,000 for the town hall insulation work, and around \$550 for the DIY insulation materials for the garages. (..and we can't forget the 3 volunteer "work days"). So we saved 3045 gallons in those three buildings this past winter compared to 05/06, and if the cost of oil has averaged about \$3 per gallon, then that adds up to **over \$9,000 saved for this winter alone!!** And it's been much more comfortable to work in those buildings. And what about that carbon footprint of ours?

So we can see in the graph that sealing air leaks and adding insulation (IN THAT ORDER! – the town hall was not insulated until August 09) gives the best improvement for the least investment in most buildings. Can what we learned here apply to homes as well? Of course! However, with spring in full swing, most folks are not thinking about buttoning UP their homes.

Mass Save runs the statewide home energy efficiency program. There are no income requirements to participate in Mass Save, and incentives include up to 75% off up to \$2000 in insulation upgrades, and an even better deal on air sealing – *free* for eligible homes. Plus you can apply for a 0% interest loan for efficiency measures such upgrading to high-efficiency heating and hot water systems, ENERGY STAR-rated windows or installing a solar hot water system. Call <u>Mass Save</u> at 866-527-7283. Call after July 1st as even more incentives will begin then, but DON'T wait until the end of summer and find yourself on a long waiting list. Scheduling your free assessment is the first step toward saving money and energy all year long.