Appliances

How To Care For Appliances Through Proper Cleaning And Use, And Reduce Utility Costs

Cleaning appliances

- Keep appliances clean so that they operate efficiently.
- Wipe up leaks and spills right away to avoid stains and odours.
- Clean behind and underneath appliances to get rid of dust and food to avoid attracting mice and insects.
- Cleaning behind appliances while avoiding floor damage.

Fridge and freezer

- Check the seals around the fridge and freezer doors to ensure that the doors close tight and cold air does not leak out.
- Set the temperature at mid range (3°C or 38°F) or medium setting. Any colder is a waste of power.
- Avoid overloading the freezer. This may cause the coolant to freeze and stop the freezer from working properly.
- If the fridge and freezer are too full, they won't seal properly and will cost more to operate.

Stove and oven

- Contact the housing authority to purchase burner liners for the stove. Do not put foil under burners since it can damage the elements.
- Ensure that the seal around the oven door is tight so that heat cannot escape.
- Clean the stove top, burners, and inside the oven to stop build up, which causes them to heat poorly and is a fire hazard.

Washer and dryer

- Do not overload the washer since it could damage the machine.
- Ensure that the dryer is fitted with a proper venting kit. The hose must be aluminum rather than plastic and it must be vented to outside the residence to reduce dust and humidity in your home.
- Since lint on the dryer screen is a fire hazard, remove lint after each use.

Saving power saves money

- Ensure the washer is level. A washer that is not level uses more power and wears out sooner.
- Dry loads of laundry immediately after each other while the dryer is still hot.

Something to think about… **Ensure your appliances are in good operating condition. Contact the Housing Authority as soon as possible if they are in need of repair.**

Contact your local housing authority for more information