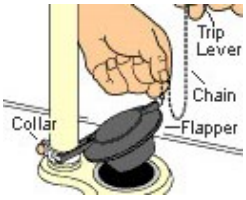
Toilets

How To Maintain, Clean, Unplug A Toilet, And Handle An Emergency

Maintaining the toilet

- A leaking or running toilet can increase your water bill by as much as $80 a month. If the toilet is leaking or running constantly, close the flapper valve and call the housing authority (sometimes jiggling the handle will close the flapper).
- When the handle doesn't flush the toilet, lift the lid off the tank and reconnect the handle to the toilet chain inside the tank.
- Avoid pouring hot fluids in the toilet since the heat can crack it.
- Dispose of feminine hygiene products, diapers, adult briefs, and wet wipes in the garbage rather than flushing them since they will cause blockages.



Flapper valve

- Store items in a closet or under the sink rather than on the toilet tank or shelving above the toilet so that items do not fall into the toilet and plug it.
- Avoid changing toilet seats since some materials are not as sanitary as others.

How to unplug the toilet

Source: www.examiner.com

- If your toilet is plugged, use a plunger and plunge at least 10 to 20 times to try and push the blockage through.
- Repeat the process until the toilet flushes properly.
- If this is not successful, call the housing authority.

How to handle an emergency

- If your toilet is leaking or overflowing, turn off the water supply. Shut off the valve behind your toilet and use a plunger.
- If you cannot turn off this valve, turn off the main water shut-off valve in your basement to prevent flooding and damage.
- If plunging doesn't remove the blockage, call the housing authority.
- You will be charged for blockages that require maintenance.

Shut off

Cleaning the toilet

- Use an all-purpose cleaner and a cloth to clean the outside of the toilet bowl, the tank, the seat, and around the base of the toilet to help eliminate odours and keep the bathroom sanitary.
- Use a toilet cleaner and a soft brush to clean the inside of the toilet bowl.

Something to think about…**Only flush body waste and appropriate amounts of toilet paper down the toilet to avoid blockages.**

Contact your local housing authority for more information

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Saskatchewan Housing Authorities

Saskatchewan Housing Corporation