

products, diapers and disposable wipes are just some of the products that can cause a back-up in your home plumbing.

Cleaning a sewer back-up can be messy, costly and inconvenient.

Washing machine odors can be prevented, eliminated

Washer odors usually are caused by leaving the washer lid closed when not in use.

Leaving the lid closed does not allow air to circulate and dry out the moisture remaining in the tub area. The air and moisture mixture becomes stagnant and creates an odor.

When the washer is not in use, leaving the lid up for air circulation will help prevent odor.

Here are some steps to get rid of odors inside washing machines.

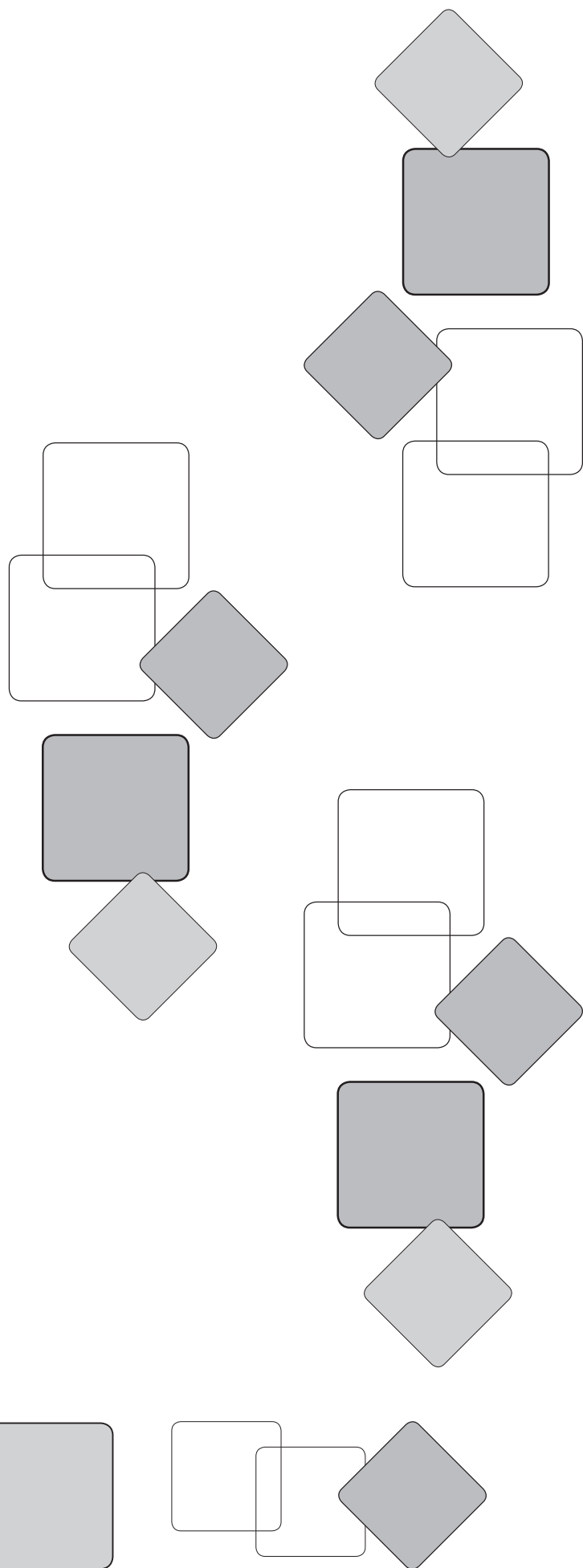
1. Fill the washer with hot water. Set at regular speed and the longest wash cycle.
2. Add 3/4 cup of a water softening additive which can be found in the laundry detergent aisle. Baking soda also can be used.
3. Allow washing machine to complete entire wash and rinse cycle.
4. If odor lingers, repeat the entire process.

To minimize the possibility of electric shock, unplug the washer from the power supply before attempting any maintenance or cleaning.

Referral rewards available for members

Members are reminded that a \$200 referral bonus will be paid when a member of the cooperative refers a qualifying new member.

The referral should be mentioned at the time of application. The referring member will receive \$200 after the applicant moves in to Independence Square Townhouses, Inc.



MARCH

Around
the SQUARE

2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Korte
president

Sheryl Frank
vice president

Mike Gamble
secretary-treasurer

William Bather

Debbie Malone

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Independence Square
Townhouses office
816.252.0444

Police (Non-emergency)
816.325.7300

Police (Emergency)
911

Signal 88 Security
816.868.4115

Animal Shelter
816.621.7722

Animal Control Dispatcher
816.325.7205

Report Power Outage
816.325.7550

Regional Animal Shelter
21001 E. Highway 78
Independence
816.621.7722

Hours:
Noon to 8 p.m. Tues. – Fri.
11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat. – Sun.

Citizens Information Center
816.325.7000

NEWSLETTER MINUTES

February 17, 2015
Board Meeting

Ed Korte, president, called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. Also present were Sheryl Frank, vice president; Mike Gamble, secretary-treasurer; William Bather and Debbie Malone, board members; Alexis Martin, on-site manager; Martha Ramcke, assistant on-site manager; Mike Leach, maintenance superintendent; Dudley Leonard, cooperative attorney; and Carmen Detherage, comptroller, with Linville Management Services, Inc.

The next board meeting is March 17.

Minutes of the January 20, 2015, board meeting were approved.

Open Session

Six members signed in: Sheila Wells, Cora Little, Barb Wood, Abigail Perez, Jessie Phillips and Bea Parks.

Ed welcomed them and called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Mike gave the maintenance superintendent's report.

Annual inspections begin March 2 and continue throughout the year.

A representative from the city's public works department inspected the proposed crosswalk north of the office (by the 1302 area). The work will be done in the spring and signs will be installed at the crosswalk to help slow traffic.

Replacements from January 20 to February 17 were two kitchen floors, two bath floors, one kitchen faucet, one range, one refrigerator, one bath faucet, one water heater and one bath sink.

Of 103 work orders called in, 96 have been completed.



Debra Malone, board member, awards the Good Neighbor of the Month for February to Sheila Wells.



Bea Parks won the door prize drawing at the February open session. Debra Malone presents her with a \$25 gift card.

Alexis gave the office updates. There have been 22 statements of charges due, one attorney referral, 24 letters of default five vehicle violations, one vehicle towing and one move-in since the last meeting.

Currently 10 units are for sale. Of these five are not paying carrying charges. Seven move-ins are scheduled and three applications are pending.

Sheila Wells was given the Good Neighbor of the Month award for February.

Jeff Stucker was recognized with a \$200 referral bonus.

Bea Parks won the door prize drawing.

The open session ended at 6:20 p.m.

Keep surfaces slip-free with ice melt granules

Members are reminded that bags of ice melt are available free from the office for use on townhouse sidewalks, steps, stoops and other surfaces.

You can help keep Independence Square safe

Signal 88 Security provides patrols for Independence Square Townhouses.

Our highly visible patrol vehicles and professional uniformed officers are here to help protect your personal property and your community. We encourage you to report suspicious activity to our Alarm Response Line, 816.868.4115. Please report emergencies to 9-1-1.

Signal 88's flagship service, the Roving Vehicle Patrol, provides you with one of the strongest visual deterrents available in the security industry today. Our SUV-style vehicles with LED lighting and WiFi communication technology gives you maximum criminal deterrent, immediate reporting capabilities and the ability to respond to a crisis at a moment's notice.

We strive to work with you to promote your overall safety.

~ Lonnie Hertzell
Owner
Signal 88 Security

Dates to Remember

March 2015

Carrying charges due: March 1

Recycled papers picked up: March 4

Carrying charges delinquent: March 10

Board meeting: March 17
Open session at 6 p.m.

Carrying charges sent to attorney: February 20

April 2015

Carrying charges due: April 1

Recycled papers picked up: April 1

Carrying charges delinquent: April 10

Board meeting: April 21
Open session at 6 p.m.

Carrying charges sent to attorney: April 20

Please note:

The Independence Square newsletter, "Around the Square," publishes two months of dates in every issue.

The March issue, for example, includes both March and April calendar dates as well as events.

The newsletter is published and delivered mid-month.

Grounds Rules Keep Property Looking Good

Independence Square rules and regulations are designed to improve the appearance of the property and the safety and quality of life of all of us who live here.

Please help keep our community clutter-free and attractive. Here are some of the rules members have agreed to follow when they signed their occupancy agreements.

Planting: Planting that could cause structural problems or mowing problems will not be approved.

Vines: Vines will not be allowed on the buildings.

Flower beds: Flower beds in front or back yards shall be planted next to the buildings. They shall not extend beyond the stoop approximately fifty-six (56) inches.

They will be sloped away from the building to allow for drainage. Raised flower beds are not allowed.

Any type of edging used must allow for drainage and may not be taller than six (6) inches.

Yard ornaments: Yard ornaments are to be confined to the flower bed.

Fenced back yards: The member is responsible for fenced back yards. They are to be mowed and kept free of clutter.

Grass should not be more than six (6) inches tall.

If you receive notice from Maintenance to mow your yard, you will have forty-eight (48) hours to do so. If not done in this time period, Maintenance will mow your yard and a \$25 fee will be charged.

Bicycle, tricycles, Big Wheels and toys: When not in use, bicycles, tricycles, Big Wheels and such must be kept inside your unit or in the back yard next to the building.

Toys are to be stored inside the unit when not in use.

Clothes drying: Clotheslines may be installed in the basement.

You may install a rotary clothes-drying post in back yards only. No other type of outdoor clothesline is authorized.

When not in use, the rotary post must be stored in the unit.

Decks and Patios: Approved installation/alteration permit is required before any work begins.

Decks: Must not be attached to the townhouse nor obstruct utility meters or wiring. They can be no larger than 12 feet by 12 feet square and are allowed only in the backyard.

Members must understand that if emergency repairs by utility companies and/or maintenance are required, the members are responsible for any costs incurred in removing and/or replacing the deck.

Patios: Are confined to backyards and must be sloped away from the townhouse to allow drainage. No poured concrete and/or asphalt patios will be allowed.

Brick, stone or patio blocks may be used because they are removable in case utility companies and/or maintenance need to make emergency repairs.

Pools/Slip-N-Slides: No swimming or wading pools shall be allowed except plastic wading pools no larger than eight

(8) feet in diameter and no more than 12 inches in depth.

Slip-N-Slides are not allowed.

Water Usage: Water is provided for normal use.

Summer water usage is limited to filling a wading pool not more than twelve (12) inches deep and watering grass, shrubs and flowers.

Wading pools can be set up only in a fenced backyard and cannot be left in place long enough to kill the grass.

Running a sprinkler for children to play in is prohibited. If water is allowed to run unattended or allowed to run into the street, the member will be charged \$10 for excessive usage.

Washing motor vehicles on cooperative property is prohibited.

Parking rules apply to guests, too

Please let visitors know about the parking rules at Independence Square.

There have been many reports of people parking in any vacant space they can find -- whether that space is another member's or a vacant unit's spot.

As you know, members are responsible for the actions of their guests.

Thank you.

Tips from the Toolshed

Labels can be misleading

Think before you flush.

Products labeled "biodegradable" or "flushable" can still clog pipes and sewer lines.

Moist, disinfecting or cleansing wipes eventually break down, but they can cause problems before they do. Disposable wipes do not dissolve like normal toilet paper. Flushing them can cause pipes to clog and could lead to a sewer back-up in your unit.

Products marketed as "flushable" may pass through your household plumbing but could contribute to clogging if a tree root or other obstruction is in the way. These can also cause problems in the city sewer mains.

Diapers, disposable toilet cleaner heads, feminine hygiene

Continued on next page.