

# KNOWING THE IMPORTANCE OF A FURNACE FILTER

Your furnace filter captures dust and debris before it reaches your furnace's air handler. It also helps to improve the air quality in your home. There are several different furnace filter types from which you can choose. These include inexpensive fiberglass filters and more costly pleated filters. All of these furnace filters will help to remove a measure of dust and debris from the air and protect the furnace system, but unless you change the air filter on a regular basis, its effectiveness will diminish.

Listed are a few reasons why changing the filter is so important:

- ❖ *Dirty filters are generally the number one cause of furnace repairs it doesn't matter which type of heating system you use, a dirty filter reduces airflow into the system, which puts a strain on the furnace. It can even cause the system to overheat, the motor to burnout, or a total system failure. Changing the filter is an inexpensive way to avoid repairs, and to keep your furnace working properly.*
- ❖ *Dirty filters cost you money. Since the furnace fan and motor have to work harder, the system consumes more energy to compensate for the reduced airflow.*
- ❖ *Dirty filters reduce the air quality in your home. Once the filter's surface becomes full, particles may bypass the filter and access the home instead. This is of special concern if anyone in your family has respiratory issues, is very young or elderly.*

Most experts recommend checking and changing every 30 days. If you have pets, live in an area with a lot of sand or dust, or notice the filter gets dirty quickly, you may need to change the filter more often.

**Furnace filters are free of charge to ALL CHA tenants, they can be picked up at the Maintenance shop. If you do not know the size filter you need please call and we can get that information for you.**