

## Humidifiers

Anyone with a hot air furnace has or should have a humidifier. They can be stand alone units or room units but most of our homes have the bypass units attached directly to the furnace duct work. Many people have had them moved out of the attic into their utility room because of the possibility of freezing. In any case if you have hot air heating it is a necessity. Without a



humidifier you will have to turn the thermostat higher to feel as warm as when the air has some humidity in it as compared to when the air is dry. So you can be more comfortable for less money spent on heat. Without a humidifier the air in your house gets so dry it causes a lot of static electricity, dries

out your nose and throat and actually dries out the glue and wood of your furniture. It can also cause woodwork in the house to shrink and crack. On the other hand, too much humidity creates ideal conditions for mold and mildew growth. If you notice condensation on your windows, lower the setting on the humidistat. The humidifier as a rule requires little attention but it does require some. Because it doesn't take much of our attention and it is out of the way

we tend to forget about it. Of course lately we tend to forget about any and everything anyway... Let's see, what was I talking about? Oh yes, humidifier maintenance. It's not much but never the less, important. The humidifier evaporative pad should be changed out at the beginning of each new



heating season. Be sure to get the right one for your model. The model number of the Honeywell flow-through humidifier is located at the bottom of the unit, near the water supply



valve on a white sticker and begins with HE.

The pads must fit correctly and be of the right material. There are some made from plastic but I prefer the one that is made from what appears to be aluminum. They are easy to tell apart, the plastic one feels soft while the aluminum one feels hard. I

have used the plastic one and it collapsed in the holder frame. When you change the pad, clean the area of any scale and check to see if the drain hole on the bottom of the pad holder is clear.

Make sure the pad is inserted correctly in the holder frame. Fit the pad into the holder and snap the top part on making sure it fits correctly and that the water supply hose is attached and snug. Make sure the drain line leading out from the bottom of the humidifier is clear. Be sure your supply valve is open.



Now set the humidistat for at least 35% to 40%. Good job, now sit back and relax or call your heater maintenance people.