

# Maintaining Your Heat Recovery Ventilator



Your heat recovery ventilator (HRV) can help make your house a clean, healthy living environment, while keeping fuel bills down. But your HRV can't do all this without your help.

It only takes seven simple steps to keep your HRV functioning properly.

## SEVEN STEPS TO A HEALTHY HRV

### **Step 1: Turn Off Your HRV**

First, turn off your HRV and unplug it.

### **Step 2: Clean or Replace Air Filters**

Dirty or clogged filters can lower ventilation efficiency. Try to clean your filters at least every two months. Filters in most new HRVs can be easily removed, cleaned with a vacuum cleaner, washed with mild soap and water, rinsed and dried thoroughly before being replaced. Older units have replaceable filters. If your HRV is easily accessible, this is a five-minute job.

### **Step 3: Check Outdoor Intake and Exhaust Hoods**

Remove leaves, waste paper or other obstructions that may be blocking the outside vents of your HRV. Without this vital airflow, your HRV won't function properly. During winter, clear any snow or frost buildup blocking outside vents.

### **Step 4: Inspect the Condensate Drain**

Check to see if your HRV has a condensate drain—a pipe or plastic tube coming out of the bottom. If it does, slowly pour about two liters of warm, clean water in each drain pan inside the HRV to make sure it is flowing freely. If there's a backup, clean the drain.

### **Step 5: Clean the Heat Exchange Core**

Check your HRV owner's manual for instructions on cleaning the heat exchange core. Vacuuming the core and washing it with mild soap and water will reduce dust that can build up inside the core.

### Step 6: Clean Grills and Inspect the Ductwork

Once a year, check the ductwork leading to and from your HRV. Remove and inspect the grills covering the duct ends, then vacuum inside the ducts. If a more thorough cleaning is required, call your service technician.

### Step 7: Service the Fans

Remove the dirt that has been accumulated on the blades by gently brushing them. Most new HRVs are designed to run continuously without lubrication, but older models require a few drops of proper motor lubricating oil in a designated oil intake. Check your manual for complete instructions.

Your HRV should be serviced annually. Contact an accredited technician if you are not comfortable doing the maintenance yourself, or if you suspect a problem with the system. Make sure the technician you call has been trained by the manufacturer of your HRV.

## Easy Maintenance Program

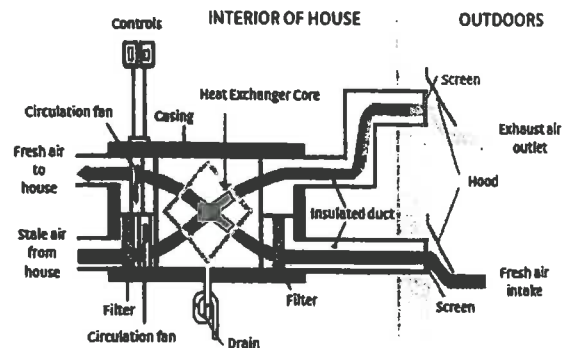
To start your easy maintenance program, simply disconnect the electrical power source, then open up the front panel.

### April or May ( ■ )

- Turn the dehumidistat (the adjustable control on many HRVs that activates the HRV according to relative humidity) to the HIGH setting or to OFF.

### September or October (   )

- Clean core and check fans
- Check condensate drain
- Check grills and ducts in the house
- Reset dehumidistat (40-80 percent)



**HRV System**

# HRV Maintenance Checklist

Year				Year				Year			
	Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other
Jan				Jan				Jan			
Mar				Mar				Mar			
May			■	May			■	May			■
July				July				July			
Sept			●	Sept			●	Sept			●
Nov				Nov				Nov			

Year				Year				Year			
	Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other
Jan				Jan				Jan			
Mar				Mar				Mar			
May			■	May			■	May			■
July				July				July			
Sept			●	Sept			●	Sept			●
Nov				Nov				Nov			

Year				Year				Year			
	Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other		Clean Filter	Clean Hood Screen	Other
Jan				Jan				Jan			
Mar				Mar				Mar			
May			■	May			■	May			■
July				July				July			
Sept			●	Sept			●	Sept			●
Nov				Nov				Nov			