

Porter Heat and How It Works

Gas is the biggest building expense and should not be wasted. The boiler settings for heat at the Porter are set for the maximum comfort of residents without overheating the building. Depending on the outside temperature, the settings determine the length of time that the heat (steam) circulates per hour (usually 8-10 minutes) during the day (6am-11pm). Early in the morning (5:30 to 6am) the heat warms the building for about 45 minutes and then the hourly cycles begin. During the night, heat circulates whenever the temperature drops to a preset temperature.

Steps to Help Prevent Being Cold

-Lock windows. This is not easy and sometimes requires someone strong to be able to align the windows, but locking seals the windows and does prevent drafts. Drapes also help.

-Remove air conditioner. If not possible, make sure it is sufficiently insulated.

-Check that radiators are working properly. See information on radiator maintenance on the website or basement bulletin board.

-Replace the valve on the end of the radiator. If that valve becomes clogged, steam will not circulate through the radiator. Call a plumber if necessary.

-Replace a radiator that has been removed. A room without a radiator will not be warm.

-Put a thermometer on an inside wall away from a window to let you know if there is a problem. It should read 70-75 degrees during the day.

