Lighting

What are Lighting Upgrades?

If your apartment building recently received or soon will receive a lighting upgrade, this fact sheet is for you! In collaboration with housing providers around the country, Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF) developed this resource to help you and other residents understand the various benefits that can result from lighting upgrades.

The energy efficiency solution you probably hear about most is a light-emitting diode (LED) light bulb because it provides good light quality, requires little effort to install, and lasts a long time. This light bulb technology has evolved over time. You can now get a wider range of color and brightness with a LED light bulb while using only a fraction of energy required by the traditional incandescent light bulb (60W) that most people are used to. Your lighting upgrades can include any of the following:

- Replace with LED or smart LED light bulbs
- Lighting fixtures
- Lighting controls (including wall switches)

These upgrades can provide a more sustainable and healthier home for you to live in.

The Benefits of Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency is good for your home, community, and the environment. SAHF’s research has uncovered 48 distinct benefits of energy efficiency improvements. There are seven different categories of building upgrades: building shell, HVAC, hot water, water, lighting, appliances, and renewables. Each of which can have benefits in five broad categories: financial, health and safety, comfort, education and learning, and social and resiliency benefits.

This fact sheet lists some key benefits associated with the lighting upgrades that you recently received or soon will receive for your home.

Did you know?

Financial Benefits

Upgrading to LED light bulbs is one of the easiest and most affordable ways to save you a lot of money over the long term, especially if you have your lights on regularly. If you consider all the light bulbs in your home, those savings on your utility bills can add up fast. With a simple light bulb swap, you can turn your lights on as you normally would, and save some money.

Health & Safety Benefits

Lighting upgrades can be beneficial to not only your wallet but your health as well. Manufacturers now offer a wide range of options to choose from, with different bulb shapes, brightness, and color. With all these options, choosing the right light bulb can support your health and well being. Lighting quality has been linked to reduced headaches and improved mental health. The distribution of lighting in your home and property can also reduce trips and falls.

Comfort Benefits

Better lighting distribution and quality can make the different spaces within your home feel more comfortable. Some LED light bulbs provide you with greater control over the brightness and/or color using your smartphone or by hitting the switch. Since LED lighting last longer than a traditional incandescent bulb, you or your maintenance staff person may not need to replace your lights as often.

Education & Learning Benefits

Adequate and quality lighting can be beneficial for both children and adults, such as improved ability to read and do homework and increased productivity.

Need more information or tips on how to make your home more sustainable?

Contact your property manager or visit ENERGY STAR’s website at https://bit.ly/3w4cKcx