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consumer radio briefs

January 18, 1974

Automatic Washers

Home equipment specialist Wanda Olson says the biggest savings consumers can make with an automatic dishwashers are to run them with full loads and NOT to let the machines go through the "drying" cycle.

Automatic clothes washing machines are thriftier with energy than their companions--clothes dryers--but the homemaker should wash full loads and use warm or cold water cycles when they are adequate. Use the hot water setting for greasy or heavily soiled clothes.

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Refrigerators

(0:30)

Vacuuming condenser coils on a refrigerator to remove dust makes heat exchange more efficient and results in less energy use. The dust serves as insulation.

Refrigerators wedged too close to cabinets or walls retain heat from condenser coils and consume more energy to maintain lower temperatures inside.

Leaving the refrigerator door open for long periods and opening it frequently is the greatest energy waster in operating that appliance. Often used foods such as catsup and jelly can be stored in cupboards, saving much opening of the refrigerator.

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Saving Fuel

(0:12)

When using the range top, heat food to boiling over high heat, then lower the setting to maintain boiling. The lower settings use about a quarter as much gas or electricity as the high settings.

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