



The most common reason for garbage disposal failure is improper use of it. Here are some don't in using a garbage disposal.

1. Do not put the following items or similar objects down a garbage disposal: egg shells; coffee grounds; solid objects (forks, spoons, wood, bottle caps, etc.);
2. When you use a garbage disposal, use lots of water and run it frequently, do not stuff it full.

Residents are responsible for the cost of garbage disposal repairs or replacements if the problem is due to a problem caused by the resident. Owners are responsible for equipment failure not operator failure so it is best to use the disposal as designed.

If you find the disposal is not working follow these steps:

1. When you try the disposal what are the symptoms?
  - A. There is no sound (humming or clicking). Go to step 2.
  - B. There is a humming or clicking sound as though it has a jamb. It probably does. Go to step 3.
  - C. Before checking the disposal make sure you have the switch off. Most garbage disposals are plugged in under the sink. If this is the case it is advisable to unplug the disposal prior to the following steps.
2. At the bottom of the garbage disposal there is a reset button. Try pushing it in. It will make a clicking sound if it needed to be reset. Try the disposal again.
  - If it works smoothly run some water and clean it out.
  - If it hums or clicks but will not spin go to step 3.
3. If you are hearing a hum, or click when turning on the disposal you probably have jammed the disposal or put something inappropriate in it.
  - A. Make sure the switch is off and or the disposal is unplugged from the circuit.
  - B. There are two ways to free up the disposal:
    - If you have a crescent wrench or you have the tool we provide under your sink, there is a nut on the bottom of the garbage disposal that can be turned back and forth that may free up the motor. If you are able to get it moving, try adding water and start the disposal again. If it works, run it awhile until cleared. You may need to press the reset button (see step 2) also.
    - If the disposal is full, jammed with something hard or clogged you will probably have to remove the material inside the disposal prior to trying to rotate it (above).
4. If you are unable to free the disposal notify CPM. We are typically unable to send a technician after hours or on weekends for garbage disposal repairs or replacement so it is advisable to use the other side of the sink or a bathroom sink until we can arrange for repairs.