

Colesville Towers Upgrades to Energy Efficient Washing and Drying Machines

Overview/Purpose: Colesville Towers, a high-end building in Silver Spring, Maryland owned by Realty Management Services, made the decision to upgrade to energy-efficient washing machines. This was a strategic move to save money and increase the building's environmental credibility.

Challenge: Realty Management Services, in partnership with the Department of Energy and the laundry operator Coinmach, was looking to replace the laundry facilities in Colesville Towers with machines that would save water, energy and money for the building owners and tenants.



Colesville Towers, Silver Spring, MD



LG Energy Start Washing Machines

Solution: The partnership decided to install Energy Star LG washers as well as 14 new Speed Queen dryers in the building, shutting down the laundry facility for 5 days. The new machines cut energy and water use by 50%, saving Colesville Tower's \$2,600 on utility bills a year. These machines are also larger, gentler on delicate clothing, require less detergent, and quieter than conventional models. Coinmach also educated residents about the benefits of the new

machines. When the project was completed there was a ribbon cutting ceremony, where residents received samples of high-efficiency detergent.

Results:

- Reduced water costs by \$1,648 and energy costs by \$1,093 per year
- 'Check my wash' program installation notifies residents when loads are complete
- Machines have longer life and superior performance capacity
- 50% less energy and water is consumed per wash

"With all the concern about energy, we can't afford to not recognize these opportunities... If these new machines increase safety, security, and efficiency for our residents, we will have done our job"
-- Scott Ross, Building Owner