



# Information Sheet – Thermopane Replacement

## What is a thermopane?

A “thermopane” or double-paned window has two panes of glass, separated by a vacuum sealed air space. The trapped air acts as an insulator, reducing heat loss through the glass. In certain higher quality thermopanes, the air space is actually filled with other types of gases, which have better insulating factors. For example low e Argon gas is often used between panes.

A common problem with windows of this type is the appearance of condensation inside the window (between the panes of glass). This is a sign that the vacuum seal between the panes has broken and that the air or other gas has escaped.

## Why should broken thermopanes be replaced?

Other than for aesthetic reason, failed thermopanes should be replaced because they no longer provide a proper insulation factor. Further, failed thermopanes are at higher risk of causing the actual glass of the window to crack.

## What do I do if I suspect I have a failed thermopane?

If you identify moisture between two sealed panes of glass, please contact the Superintendent in order to have the window inspected. If it is determined that the thermopane has indeed failed, your unit will be placed on a list of windows to be addressed during the following spring/season.