CARE AND CLEANING OF YOUR LOW VISION DEVICES

Sometimes, individuals who use low vision devices such as magnifiers and telescopes find that they are not seeing as well as they once were. At times, there has been a change in vision, but frequently, it is a result of dirt, lint, or skin oils on the device itself.

Any low vision device should be cleaned with a soft cloth such as an old T shirt, a diaper or old underwear. Tissues and paper towels should not be used since they have tiny wood splinters and can scratch a soft lens.

For **plastic sunlenses**, it is advisable to rinse in warm soapy water, rinse with clean water, and pat dry with a soft absorbent cloth. It is very important that you don't put any lens face down on a surface. These sunlenses last longer if you keep them in the case when you are not using them.

For **telescopes**, no water should be used since it can get into the barrel of the telescope and ruin the inside. A soft cloth is sufficient for rubbing the lens close to your eye and the one at the end of the telescope. When you are going out in the cold or in extreme heat, it is advisable to wear the telescope on your body. This could be done by putting the telescope on a lanyard and wear it around your neck, or by putting it in a inside pocket of your inside clothing. In this way, the telescope will not get extremely cold or hot and when you try to use it, condensation will not have formed inside of the telescope.

"Flashlight" magnifiers can be cleaned by removing the head of the magnifier (do not twist to remove; pull it straight off) and putting a drop of water on either side of the lens and then wiping it with a soft cloth. Be careful not to get any water near the handle (either electric or battery).

Pocket magnifiers that are illuminated can be cleaned by carefully putting a small drop of water on either side of the lens and cleaning it. Here too, it is important not to get any water near the battery.

If you have any question, please contact someone who is familiar with low vision devices.