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appliance doctor

Flooding brings appliance danger

The spring time of year is always a wake-up call for the internal feelings of any human being. We have just spent the short days of winter finding it hard to wake up in the mornings and easy to come in early at night. Spring brings an involvement of time dedicated to the maintenance of our castles and the grounds and awakens our minds to being creative. It is the way of nature that it, too, brings a change that is not always conducive to a clear day.

A few weeks ago, the mayor of Westland, Robert J. Thomas, stopped by my store and asked if I would speak to several hundred homeowners gathering that evening, as a result of the many flooded basements in their subdivision. I was asked to explain to homeowners the risk factors of having an appliance submerged in water. As I stood in front of these many people, I couldn't help but feel what they were going through. The force of nature, coupled with the mistake of a human, can sometimes be very tragic.

The first fear to recognize when a given area has water and electricity mixed together is that of an electrical shock, which is very capable of killing you. The fact that you feel safe because you have entered and are now walking in several inches of water may suddenly change the minute you touch anything.

At this time, the electrical charge will have completed a circuit through your body and you'll shine like a light bulb. The safest procedure to follow in case of

See Gagnon, page D7

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