

ASK THE EXPERT:

****Attention all readers!!!! If you have a plumbing or heating question, please call our office! We may use your question in the paper! ****

Q Hoping you will answer my question sooner than later. Why are my lights flickering when my furnace or microwave turn on? Should I be concerned? I can live without the microwave, but prefer not to live without the furnace or electricity.

-- Todd -

A Thanks for the email. When your furnace or microwave turns on, it draws a large amount of power for a brief moment - especially at startup. That sudden demand can cause a small temporary drop in voltage which is why the lights dim. A brief dimming isn't usually a big concern, however, if the lights begin to flicker heavier, or dim for more than a second or two, happen throughout the whole house, or seem to be getting worse, it could indicate a loose connection in the panel or meter base, an overloaded circuit, a shared neutral, or in some cases, a service problem with the utility. If things get worse, or you have any other issues or questions, please call us right away to have our electrician come out and check everything over.

We are your one stop shop Todd!

262-989-1001

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*Wes Rosenberg,
Owner/Master Plumber*

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Waters, Inc.**



262-277-4255

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