

Ten Steps for a Better Community Eruv
By Rabbi Chaim Jachter, Member of the RCA Halacha Committee

1. Compile a full written description of every aspect of the Eruv.
2. Enlist intelligent and sharp Torah observant individuals to conduct the weekly inspection of the Eruv.
3. The Eruv inspectors should be intimately familiar with every nuance of the Eruv.
4. The Rav who is responsible for the Eruv and the Eruv inspectors should conduct a walking inspection and thorough review of the entire Eruv at least once a year.
5. Eruv inspectors should not drive while inspecting the Eruv.
6. The community should be made aware of the route of the Eruv so that they can alert potential problems such as utility pole construction to their Rav and Eruv committee.
7. An effort should be made to upgrade the Eruv on a yearly basis.
8. Coordinate inspections and installations with the local police.
9. Record where the Eruv is most vulnerable and specific locations where problems occur frequently (and explore creative ideas).
10. Every few years an outside Eruv expert should review the Eruv.

Rabbi Jachter welcomes phone (201-837-1929) and e-mail (hmjachter@msn.com) inquiries. Rabbi Jachter has reviewed more than fifty community Eruvin throughout North America and looks forward to helping you and your Kehillah. He is happy to share the standards he implements in his role as Rav HaMachshir of the Englewood (New Jersey) Eruv.