



News & Helpful Hints for the Informed Homeowner

Winter 2013/2014

Brrr... It's cold out there! We're counting down the days until Christmas and gearing up for the New Year. No matter what your plans are for the holiday season, we wish your family the very best as we journey through the last part of 2013 and into 2014.

As always, we encourage you to keep up with the yearly maintenance on your heating equipment. Call our office to schedule your tune-up!

Thank you for your continued support! We look forward to continuing to serve your heating and cooling needs.

Ken and Shane Weaver

The Benefits of a Programmable Thermostat

Did you know that for every degree you lower your thermostat during an 8 hour period it can save you 1% on your heating bill? We all like our homes to be cozy but there are still times during the day (and night!) when turning down the thermostat can be beneficial to your bottom line.

Manually adjusting your thermostat is a great way to start. Bumping the temperature down a few degrees at night or when you go away for the day is the first step in saving energy. To make the most of your heating equipment, however, the easiest way to save is to use a programmable thermostat like the Honeywell Pro8000.

The Pro800 has a 7 day programmable schedule, making it easy to lower your temperatures on days that you're not in your home. Here's how we use the programmable thermostat in our home:

At 8pm our heating temperature drops to 64°. At 7am our heating temperature rises to 70°. (Note: This doesn't mean that it begins to heat at 7am - it actually begins to heat around 6am to get the house back up to 70° for 7am.) You can use a similar schedule for work days or weekends.

New this year are WiFi enabled programmable thermostats that let you adjust your home comfort system from a smart phone, tablet or computer. They're especially useful in offices or churches. If you have an interest in installing a programmable thermostat, call our office for more information!

Insulate, Insulate, Insulate

The easiest way to help with heat loss in your home is through insulation. Here are our top 5 ways to keep the warmth from escaping the house!

Insulate your windows by covering the outside in plastic. Also add thermal blinds to your windows to prevent additional drafts.

Add insulation to your attic and basement. Cold air seeps into these rooms and brings your temperature down steadily.

Insulate pipes that are exposed to the cold. Not only does this help prevent freezing and bursting but it also holds heat in hot water pipes.

Seal your doors and windows. Adding some caulking or weather stripping to the exterior of your entry points can also help prevent warm air leakage.

Close off your fireplace escape when it's not in use. Remember, warm air rises and will float right out of your chimney.

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Christmas office hours

Our offices will close at noon on December 24th and will be closed December 25th in observance of Christmas. We will re-open Thursday, December 26th at 7am. Our offices will also be closed January 1st in celebration of the new year!

Keystone HELP Program

This low rate loan program is available for customers who are installing energy efficient improvements in their home. Visit their website here to find out more.

Lititz Fire & Ice Festival

Mark your calendars for February 14-17 for Lititz's annual Fire and Ice Festival. We'll be handing out free hot chocolate in front of 55 N. Broad St. on Friday night. There are lots of other events that weekend as well - check them out here. We hope to see you there!

Touch A Truck Results

Remember the Touch A Truck event we participated in back in October? It seems like a long time ago, but we just wanted to update you on the amazing impact it had! During the event they were able to collect 700 pounds of donated canned goods, dry goods and personal care items for the Lititz/Warwick Community Chest and Ephrata Area Social Services! Thank you to everyone who donated and impacted the lives of people living in our communities!

