

INSIDE and OUT

CLEVER & SIMPLE IDEAS TO IMPROVE YOUR HOMELIFE

Volume 2 Issue 1
April 2004

My Word

Welcome Spring!

Hello Friends,

The days are getting warmer and also a little longer. Spring is here and Easter is just around the corner. The best part of spring is the adding of color to our colorless winter landscapes. Unfortunately, there has been an overabundance of rabbits this year and most of my landscape has been chewed to the ground. Looks like I get to start all over, again! Hopefully you have been luckier than I and you are able to enjoy the fruits of your labors.

Furnaces are still running, just not as hard. It is extremely important to continue to check and change your filters regularly. Once the weather cooperates, I will be starting the annual clean and checks for your air conditioners. This year will be the first year that I will be offering *Preventative Maintenance Contracts*. Basically, these are pre-paid furnace and air conditioner clean and checks that also offer you preferential scheduling for emergency service, if required, as well as a *10% discount on Labor and Parts*. Look for more information regarding this offer on page 4 of this newsletter.

It is more important now than ever, with the rising costs of energy and the eventual (June of 2006) changing of energy standards to 13 SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating) in the air conditioning industry, to make sure your tired old air conditioner is cleaned, lubricated and full of refrigerant. Actually, it is just as important for a two-year-old system to be

Our philosophy is quite simple: We treat our customers as we would like to be treated. We are respectful, courteous, and above all, honest.

checked as for a 20-year-old system. If your system has a SEER rating of 8 (usually anything older than 12 years) or less, you may want to seriously contemplate upgrading to a new energy efficient system. Right now, 10 SEER is the standard, but 12 and 13 SEER units are available. Simply put, the higher the SEER, the lower your monthly contribution to your local electric company.

Just a quick note, I am very happy to announce that I am now able to offer, through Citi Financial, 90 days *Same As Cash* financing on equipment purchases. Please feel free to call with any questions regarding financing.

I hope you are all looking forward to the spring season as much as I am. Time to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. The buds are bursting on the trees and flowers are starting to show themselves. Driving with the window down and no more winter coats to deal with. *Life is good.*

I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as I did writing it. It is full of helpful ideas and seasonal tips. Call me to help you save and stay comfortable. I am ready to help you or your friends and relatives anytime.

Warmly,
Larry

Outside

Chore Checklist for Spring

Winter may be over and Jack Frost will soon be a distant memory. Here are a few ideas to get a jump on the spring gardening season.

- ♣ Cultivate leftover mulch into soil, apply a granular pre-emergent weed killer to freshly cultivated shrub beds, and apply a fresh layer of double-grounded hardwood mulch.
- ♣ Prune out any winter damage from small trees and shrubs..
- ♣ Apply fresh fertilizer to all plants and to all lawn areas.
- ♣ Late winter/ early spring is the best time to apply horticultural oils to shrubs and trees that have problems in the summer.
- ♣ Make sure all of your equipment has been properly prepared for use during the active season, i.e., change oil, gas, and sharpen blades for the lawn mower.
- ♣ Clean up beds and lawn areas of any fallen winter debris or leftover leaves.
- ♣ Plant early flowering pansies and summer blooming bulbs as soon as possible.
- ♣ Irrigation system should be blown out and turned on for the season. Remember to check all heads to make sure the water is covering the desired areas.
- ♣ Remove flowerpots from winter storage, wash out, fill bottom with gravel or pieces of broken pots, fill with fresh potting soil, and fill with annuals.
- ♣ Remember that all new plantings need to be watered every 3 days until the fast frost of winter.

Special Points of Interest

- Safety Alert
- How to relieve the itch of mosquito bites
- Contest entry form

Safety Alert

Flexible Gas Connectors

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is warning consumers about dangerous, older flexible gas connectors used to connect home appliances to gas supply pipes. These gas connectors are made of brass, are uncoated, and can crack or break, leading to a fire or explosion. They are used most often with gas ranges, ovens and clothes dryers.

Only a licensed service technician

should check these gas connectors and replace them if necessary. CPSC warns that consumers should not check the gas connectors themselves. Moving an older appliance, even slightly, can cause the connectors to crack and result in a gas leak and explosion.

This type of gas connector has not been manufactured for about 20 years, but some still exist in consumers' homes. The older

these connectors get, the more dangerous they become.

The brass fittings on these gas connectors, which connect the gas supply to the appliance, were soldered onto a corrugated brass tube. The CPSC believes the solder can fail, causing a break in the connector resulting in a gas leak.

Consumers with older gas appliances should immediately call DuAll Heating & Cooling at (630) 247-1720 to replace their gas connectors if necessary.

Inside

Furnace Filter Problems

Heating & Cooling

One of the most frequent service calls we get is from frustrated homeowners who complain their heating or cooling system doesn't keep their entire house comfortable during very hot or cold weather. The first question we ask is, "Do you have a narrow one-inch pleated furnace filter in the furnace rack?" Most people answer, "yes."

If their furnaces or air conditioning systems are operating but just not cooling enough, we tell them to remove that filter immediately and insert one of the cheap 85 cent types and call back either way if that does or doesn't work. Most of the time they call us back to let us know that removing the narrow pleated filter worked. They also want to know why that caused the problem.

About four years ago, I asked Carrier Corp. in Indianapolis to run various

filter tests in their very sophisticated laboratory to determine which type of air cleaners and furnace filters are the most efficient at removing airborne particles and will still allow air to flow through the furnace and into the ductwork.

After about two months of testing, Carrier engineers sent me the test results. They discovered all narrow one-inch clean pleated filters they tested reduced the air flow through the furnace so much as to nearly "red-line" the blower performance. Basically this means narrow one-inch pleated filters will drastically reduce the air flow through the furnace, indoor evaporator air conditioner coil and duct system. In addition to needlessly increasing the homeowner's utility costs, those types of filters could damage the furnace and air conditioning

system.

This summer our service technicians discovered several ruined air conditioning compressors that appeared to be damaged by narrow one-inch pleated furnace filters that restricted the airflow through the air conditioner's indoor evaporator coil. Some of the filters were clean and others were extremely dirty after 30 to 60 days of use.

If the homeowner's desire is to have a cleaner indoor environment, they should consider purchasing and having a mechanical air cleaner installed. A good mechanical air cleaner has 4 to 5-inchwide pleated filters that allow a lot of dirty and allergy causing materials to be collected and also will allow the proper airflow through the furnace and cooling coil and into the duct system. This type of filter has to be installed by a professional sheet metal technician. This type of filter is easy to replace every eight to 12 months.

NEW ITEM

DuAll Heating & Cooling T-Shirts Make Their Debut

We will be handing out these quality cotton blend shirts at local civic events such as parades and high school football games throughout the year.

These new t-shirts are our way of saying **Thank-you**. You can also get one free with any equipment purchase while supplies last.



NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

Win a brand new Aprilaire® humidifier

Our current name "Inside and Out" although descriptive of what is inside the newsletter, I must admit, lacks a certain ZING.

So, I am letting you, my loyal customers, make your suggestions. To make it worth your time, I am offering as a grand prize to the winning entry, a brand new state-of-the-art Aprilaire® model 700 power humidifier. I'll even install it for you, free of charge! So get those thinking caps on and come up with a clever new name for my newsletter. You can send the entry form back to me through the mail, or you can email me your suggestion. Send to: DuAll_Heating@hotmail.com
Entries must be received by June 1st 2004. Winner will be notified by July 1st 2004 and will be announced in the next issue of the newsletter.

"Name the Newsletter" Contest Entry Form

My suggestion for the new name of the DuAll newsletter is:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Send to: **DuAll Heating "Name the Newsletter Contest"**
P.O. Box 1032, Bolingbrook, IL 60440

DuAll in the Community



This February I was very fortunate to volunteer some time to the *Illinois Aviation Museum at Bolingbrook*. I was part of a four-man team that disassembled and brought back to Bolingbrook, a T2 Buckeye Navy Jet Trainer from Pensacola, Florida. This is a brand new museum that is still in the formation process. The US Navy has been very generous and donated three aircraft to the museum.

As well as the T2, the Navy donated a *Wildcat* and a *Dauntless*. (both WWII aircraft). The T2 will be on display at Clow Airport in just a few short months after we reassemble and give it a fresh paint job. The other two aircraft will need approximately five to ten years of restoration, as they were removed from the bottom of Lake Michigan after 50 years of deterioration.

Health Information Relieve the itch of Mosquito Bites

Summer will be here before you know and along with summer comes a little critter with an annoying bite. Here are some household items that can ease the discomfort.

Liquid soap neutralizes the toxins in an insect bite. Dab it on and don't wash it off.

Alcohol acts as a solvent, helping to remove toxins.

Vicks VapoRub contains menthol, which deadens nerve endings.

Toothpaste produces a cooling sensation that distracts you from the itching. Try rubbing a dab over the bite.

Baking soda neutralizes acidic insect venom. Make a paste and apply it to the bite.

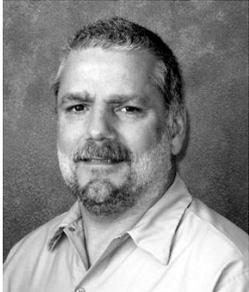
Onions contain enzymes that break down chemicals your body releases. Crush the onion rub the juice into your skin.

If you experience sensitivity with any of these topical remedies, discontinue use.



DuAll Heating & Cooling

"Your Comfort Solution"



Larry M. Greenwich- Owner
 419 Foxborough Trail
 Bolingbrook, IL 60440
 Phone (630)247-1720
 Or (630)378-0036

Licensed, Insured and Bonded

*DuAll Heating and Cooling is a family owned business based in Bolingbrook, Illinois. We service all types of furnaces, air conditioners, boilers, water heaters and sump pumps. We currently install **Westinghouse** and **Janitrol** Heating and Air conditioning equipment. These companies offer our customers the most value and best warranties. Indoor air quality is a very serious issue and we are constantly learning new ways to improve our customer's living space. Our customers reside in Naperville, Bolingbrook, Woodridge, Lisle, Downers Grove, Lemont, Plainfield and other surrounding communities. Our philosophy is quite simple: We treat our customers as we would like to be treated. We are respectful, courteous, and above all, honest.*

We are a member of the Bolingbrook Chamber of Commerce.

Preventative Maintenance Agreements now available through DuAll Heating & Cooling

This is just another way we have found to increase our service to you and save you money at the same time. Here's how it works.

Everyone's schedule is so full these days, it is easy to forget about having your heating and cooling equipment properly maintained. When you sign up for the *DuAll Preventative Maintenance Agreement*, nothing is left to chance. You have piece of mind knowing your equipment will be operating safe and efficient. For a flat fee, you will receive two preventative maintenance (Clean & Checks) calls per year. This guarantees your equipment, both the furnace and air conditioner, gets the attention they deserve.

Once spring is here and the weather is warm enough, we will call you to schedule your air conditioner tune-up. We check the filter and lubricate all motors, check your condensate drain line to make sure it is not clogged, and wash the condenser coil. We check all electrical connections to make sure they are tight and making good connections. We will correct any frayed or worn wires. We check the contactor to make sure the contacts are clean and not arcing. We cycle

the unit and make sure any time delays are operating properly. A check of the refrigerant levels will tell us if any new refrigerant is needed, and if it is, we will suggest finding and correcting any and all leaks.

In the fall, we will schedule your furnace tune-up. We Check the filter and lubricate the motors. We clean the burner compartment, vacuum out the furnace and clean the pilot assembly. We check the flame shield and inspect the heat exchanger for cracks, holes or corrosion. We check for proper venting of flue gasses and check the physical condition of the flue pipe. A test of the heating cycle will tell us if the furnace is operating at manufacturers design conditions. Any adjustment to the air/gas mixture will be made at this time.

You humidifier can be included in the agreement and would be serviced at the same time as the furnace.

The fee for the *DuAll Preventative Maintenance Agreement* will be lower than if you had scheduled the services separately. You will also receive preferential scheduling in the event emergency service is necessary, and you will also receive a 15% discount on parts.

One of the biggest benefits to you is that **your equipment's preventative maintenance will not be accidentally forgotten**. I contact you and make all the arrangements.

Here is a break down of costs:

- 1 furnace and 1 air conditioner
\$105/ year
- Add a humidifier
\$29/ year
- 2 furnaces and 2 air conditioners
\$205/ year
- Add two humidifiers
\$55/ year

FREE*
(If needed)

1 lb. R-22 Refrigerant
Regularly priced
at \$21.00

*with the purchase of an
air conditioner clean and check

Expires June 30, 2004