



# HOME COMFORT CONNECTION

*Home Comfort News for the Customers of Home Aire Care Heating & Cooling*

## Top 10 Home Maintenance Musts

### Check for Peeling Paint

Inspect exterior walls to see if any paint is peeling or blistering on the house or outbuildings. According to Carl Minchew, Director, Benjamin Moore Paints, "Peeling paint is a sign that the existing paint film is failing and can no longer protect the siding of the building. Left uncorrected, the siding itself will deteriorate, leading to expensive repairs in the future."

### Clean the Gutters

After leaves have fallen, clean out the gutters and downspouts, flush them with water, inspect joints, and tighten brackets if necessary. Clogged gutters are one of the major causes of ice dams. Replace old or damaged gutters with new ones that have built-in leaf guards.

### Caulk Windows

Be sure to caulk around windows and doorframes to prevent heat from escaping. "Caulking and sealing openings is one of the least expensive maintenance jobs," says Michael Hydeck, Hydeck Design Build, Inc., Telford, PA, and National President, National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). "Openings in the structure can cause water to get in and freeze, resulting in cracks and mold buildup," he says.

### Inspect the Roof

Make sure the roof is in good shape. Inspect for missing and loose shingles. "Ice, rain, snow, and wind combined with rapidly changing temperatures and humidity wreak havoc on roofs," says Jay Butch, Director, Contractor programs for CertainTeed Roofing. "Your roof is your first defense in protecting your home. It's better to proactively deal with repairs in the fall than to discover a leaky roof during a snowstorm."

### Ready the Fireplace

Have your heating system checked by a licensed heating contractor. Heating systems will use fuel more efficiently, last longer, and have fewer problems if properly serviced. Get your wood stove and fireplace in working order. Gary Webster, Creative Director of Travis Industries, suggests that you examine your wood stove or fireplace insert's door gasket for a tight seal.

### Seal the Driveway

Inspect your driveway for cracks. Clean out and repair any damage with driveway filler, then coat with a commercial sealer. Sealing the

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### Dear Customer,

We just wanted you to know we truly enjoy the privilege of being invited into your home and are honoured to help with your HVAC needs.

Your continued patronage and suggestions are a vital part of our growth. And for that, we are most grateful.

Thanks again, we hope you enjoy our comfort news and we look forward to serving you for many years to come.

### *Keep in Touch!*

**The Staff of Home Aire Care  
Heating and Cooling**

### *We Can Help You...*

- Save energy and money, reduce your carbon footprint and improve indoor comfort
- Prevent costly repairs and prolong the life of your heating and cooling equipment through regular service
- Provide your family with healthy, fresh indoor air

## Top 10 Home Maintenance Musts

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driveway now will help extend the life of the asphalt through the winter and beyond.

### Reverse Ceiling Fan

Change the direction of your ceiling fan to create an upward draft that redistributes warm air from the ceiling. Clean your humidifiers regularly during the heating season. Bacteria and spores can develop in a dirty water tank resulting in unclean moisture misting out into your room.

### Cover Air Conditioners

Cover to help protect your outdoor unit from the elements winter brings. Remove units from windows or wrap the outside box with an approved tarp or plastic air conditioner cover.

### Clean Yard Equipment

Prepare your yard equipment for storage. This includes draining fuel from all gas-operated equipment such as lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and chain saws. Check to see that all of your snow equipment is up and running before the first flurry falls. Organize your snow clearing gear. When snow arrives you'll want to have shovels, roof rakes, and snow blowers where you can get to them.

### Prepare Deck for Winter

Clean porch and deck furniture, and look for any needed repairs. Cover and store outdoor furniture and barbecues in a protected area. Make sure all soil is emptied from pots and planters. Dirt left in clay pots will freeze and cause the pots to crack if left outside.

# Always Be Humble and Kind

**When constant disruption is the new normal, and some people never find a door open for them COMPASSION is called for.**



Whenever trouble strikes, someone usually says. "Just remember, every time a door closes another opens." There's a lot of truth in those helpful words and also in the observation. With the disruptions under way at the present time - US election, terrorist attacks, UBER, low oil prices, computer jobs going offshore, robots in factories, and fluctuating global markets, many doors close.

As the relentless onrush of the electronic age rolls out its marvels, it also creates high levels of uncertainty for workers. These are tough times. Recently Bill Gates, on PBS's Charlies Rose program, predicted that in the next 30 years robots will be able to master the complexities of doing the jobs now done by personal care workers. This speed of innovation and change shows no sign of slowing down.

Many say this constant disruption is the new normal. Those who disagree, and want to fight back are often called Luddites. That's the name given to a group of English self-employed weavers in 1811 (at the very beginning of the Industrial Revolution). They protested against new power-driven looms that were taking away their jobs, their income, their way of life - which had been stable for hundreds of years. Later. In 1830, in the south of England, farm workers were also being displaced, this time

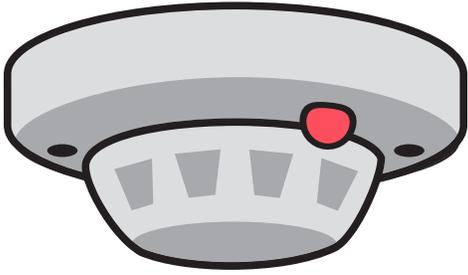
by threshing machines that caused unemployment and drove down the wages of those left working on the farms. So, disruptions in the face of changes are not new. Obviously, in the long run, the weaving machines produced more affordable clothing for people, and over time, mechanized farming produced an abundant food supply for the growing populations. Thus, many argue, change is always good.

However, it is just as obvious that change can create waves of suffering, producing many whose lives may never get put back together, who never find a door open for them. We have to heal the present as well as look forward to bright new days ahead. We need to look after the casualties of change. Workers are like soldiers in the front line, who not through any fault of their own, are not in control of the forces that swirl around them. Like soldiers, when they are casualties, they need to be treated with compassion, with respect for their contribution to the cause, and supported in the adjustments that have to be made in their lives.

As the rate of change increased, employers, governments and our society in general need to prepare to deal with the economics, the innovations and the casualties with more compassion and respect. As the Tim McGraw song says "Always be Humble and Kind"

# If You Snooze, You Lose.

## Wake Up to the Facts About Smoke Detectors



The National Fire Prevention Association estimates that 13 out of 14 homes have at least one smoke detector. But statistics show that half of all fires and 40% of all fire-related deaths in the US and Canada occur in homes with smoke detectors. So, what's the problem?

### If You've Got it, Use it

It is amazing how ineffective a smoke detector can be when it sits in a drawer or on the wall without a battery. Nevertheless, hundreds of people will die in fires this year because they live in homes with smoke detectors that haven't been installed or are poorly maintained. There are now more homes with smoke detectors that don't work than there are homes without detectors at all. Chances are, you won't be in the room if a fire starts in your home. Smoke detectors buy you those critical few minutes that make the difference between escaping and dying in the fire.

Here's how to maintain your smoke detector:

- Test the detector. Press the test button and listen for the alarm. Do this once a month.
- Clean the detector. Vacuum away dust and cobwebs. Don't paint on it or let debris from a home improvement project get into it.
- Replace the batteries once a year, or when the alarm chirps, or when you move to a new home.

### Placement is Pivotal

If the smoke alarm is not close enough to wake you from a sound sleep, then you and your family are at risk. Most fire related deaths occur at night, when people are sleeping. You should have a smoke detector on every level of your house, but in particular, near the sleeping area and in the basement. Detectors should be placed on a ceiling, 4" away from the nearest wall, or on a wall, at least 4 inches from the ceiling. Don't install a detector near a window, door, or fireplace, where drafts could direct smoke away from the detector. Never connect a hard-wired detector to a circuit that could be turned off by a wall switch.

### There Are Two Kinds of Detectors: You Need Both

Smoke detectors are available in two different forms: ionization and photoelectric.

The ionization model is much more commonly found in homes and is somewhat better at detecting open flaming fires. The photoelectric detector which is harder to find, responds faster to smoldering fires.

### How to Avoid Nuisance Alarms

To avoid nuisance alarms, it is important to clean the detector regularly, following the manufacturer's instructions. Make sure the batteries are fresh. Since steam and cooking vapors can set off the alarm, place the detector away from the kitchen and bathrooms. But remember: don't dismantle your detector because of the odd false alarm. You may not remember to hook it back up until it's too late.



## The Signs of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

The physical symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include the following:

- Severe headaches, dizziness, blurred vision
- Confusion, disorientation, sleepiness
- Rapid pulse
- Ringing in the ears
- Nausea, vomiting
- Loss of muscle control

**Carbon Monoxide (CO) gas is invisible, with no taste, colour or smell, and it can kill you.**

If you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, leave the house and get immediate medical attention. If the carbon monoxide alarm goes off, or if you notice a smell or exhaust fumes or gas, or if any gas flame in the house is burning yellow instead of blue, leave the house immediately and call the fire department.

**Note:** there tends to be a high number of false alarms with most carbon monoxide detectors, but you should never ignore them if they go off. The one time you do could be your last.

# SPECIAL OFFERS for Our Customers

## Fall Furnace SAVINGS

SAVE UP TO\*

# \$750 OFF



866-563-4200

\*Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires Dec. 21, 2016.

## Save Big on HOT WATER TANKS

# \$100 OFF

ANY HOT WATER TANK PURCHASE\*



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\*Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires Dec. 21, 2016.

## Fall Air Quality SPECIALS

# 15% OFF

HUMIDIFIERS, UV LIGHTS  
AND AIR CLEANERS\*



866-563-4200

\*Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires Dec. 21, 2016.

## This Fall, Think SAFETY!

### Clean Your Dryer Vents!

Did you know that dryer vents can cause dangerous house fires? As you can imagine, the dry, fluffy material is highly flammable. The problem is, once there is excessive buildup, it can cause the dryer to over heat and ignite the fluff. It can take just a few seconds once ignited to get out of control.

Depending on your dryer usage, thoroughly cleaning your dryer vents should be a regular routine. Clean your filters every time you dry a load, and have your entire



dryer vent system cleaned every three years. For your protection, be sure to use reputable technicians who know how to get at every nook and cranny of your dryer vent system from dryer to the outside walls.

**There are reasons why good service may cost a little more: warranties on repairs, availability on off-hours and weekends, well-stocked trucks, quality tools, proper testing equipment, state-of-the-art technology, good management, organized dispatching and professionally educated, certified and experienced technicians are all essential to providing you with superior, hassle-free service.**

What a great time we have been having here at Home Aire Care Heating and Cooling Trenton and Kingston! We have great customers and because of your loyalty and referrals, we have been able to expand our business. We have opened a new office in Kingston...look for us at 664 Norris Court (right across from Lowes). It is coming along slowly but starting to look great. Currently our office hours vary at the Kingston shop, but you can always call us at 613-548-4071 to check if we have someone in that day. You can pick up your filters or speak to a Home Comfort Advisor.

Our Trenton office is open 8 am - 5 pm Monday to Friday where you can stop in for filters, book appointments, check on your account, talk to a home comfort advisor etc. You can call that office at 613-392-6558. We have also hired more staff to meet our demands. We still have our great technicians and installers, just hired some new talent.

At Home Aire Care, we know that if it wasn't for our customers we would not have been able to do all these things, so I thought I would take the time to make sure you all know how much we appreciate you. So, thank you for your continued loyalty and support and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Dentremont

## We ♥ Our Customers!



866-563-4200

[www.homeairecare.ca](http://www.homeairecare.ca)

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