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FALL 2024



HANDYMAN

VS



AIR PRO

Unlicensed, Untrained and Unneeded

Don't Let HVAC (Un)Professionals Wreck Your HVAC System

Don't Trust Your Indoor Comfort to Just Anybody

The ads are on telephone poles, in the back of your newspaper and on social media. CLEAN YOUR DUCTWORK, one ad reads. And what's the problem? For a few bucks, your friendly neighborhood handyman will come over and remove dust and dirt from your HVAC system. Sounds good, right?

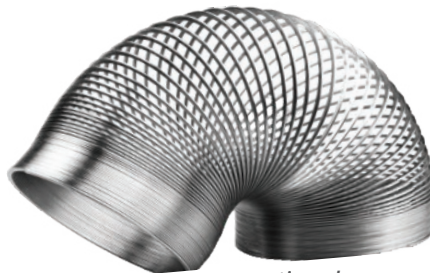
Don't fall for it.

Hiring unlicensed HVAC contractors or service workers to clean your HVAC system may seem like a way to save money, but the truth is it usually leads to serious problems and costly fixes. As the Environmental Protection Agency describes it, "Duct cleaning has never been shown to actually prevent health problems. Neither do studies conclusively demonstrate that particle (e.g., dust) levels

in homes increase because of dirty air ducts. This is because much of the dirt in air ducts adheres to duct surfaces and does not necessarily enter the living space."

Duct Cleaning Disasters

Ductwork is a major part of any central heating and air conditioning system. Made of a thin inner vinyl lining with a "slinker" style stainless steel spring embedded inside, ductwork is typically wrapped in pink fiberglass and then encased in a second layer of vinyl. Duct cleaning machines are either vigorous enough



continued on page 2

Inside

Pigs in a Blanket Recipe

Unlicensed, Untrained and Unneeded: Don't Let HVAC (Un)Professionals Wreck Your HVAC System

Earthquakes, Fires and the Occasional Bear

Joke Time

Crossword Puzzle

Coupons



*Unlicensed, Untrained and Unneeded
continued from page 1*



through your system. If you're worried about air quality, you can change your air filters quickly, cheaply and easily. If you've recently remodeled or repainted, you may want a licensed tech to examine your system. However, ordinary HVAC usage does not result in

to tear the vinyl itself, or so soft they can't strip out any embedded dirt. And here's another problem: you probably won't know the ducts are damaged until you notice your energy bills are higher than last year, or that the dust and debris you're breathing in is because your ductwork is now unsealed.

The fact is that HVAC comes with air filters that trap dust and irritants that may pass

the kind of irritant accumulation that would merit cleaning. Protect your equipment, your energy bills and your air quality. Leave any maintenance or inspections up to the pros.

If you're concerned about indoor air quality beyond what a HEPA grade filter can provide, Air-Tro can help with sensibly priced, effective air sanitation upgrades that will help you breathe more easily and provide

an extra measure of safety and cleanliness to your indoor comfort. In 2024, there are far more effective ways to ensure air quality within your home than ductwork cleaning scams. Avoid problems, and go straight to the experts.

To protect your home and investment, always hire licensed and insured professionals for your HVAC needs. Have questions? Call us to evaluate the problem.



Joke Time!

Q: What did the hot dog say when it crossed the finish line?

A: I'm a Wiener!

Q: Why did the game warden arrest the ghost?

A: Because he didn't have a haunting license.

Q: Why should you never tell a taco a secret?

A: Because they tend to spill the beans!

Earthquakes, Fires and the Occasional Bear

How to Prep Your SoCal Home

Simple Plans Make for a Safe Home

Don't get us wrong. We love living in Southern California. After all, Air-Tro has been around since 1969 as a family owned business, and nobody at our last family barbecue talked about moving to Alaska anytime soon. However, living in the area also comes with natural hazards. Earthquakes and wildfires are always seasonal risks, and for those of us in the foothill communities, even the occasional bear is a thing. Prepare your family and your home for these events for peace of mind.

Here are some tips on how to get started:

Earthquake Readiness

Securing your home is essential. Bolt down or strap bookshelves and cabinets

to prevent them from toppling during a quake. Use straps to secure your water heater, and think about appropriate safety retrofits in older homes to safeguard against seismic activity. Most important: keep an emergency kit with three days of dry food, water, any necessary daily medications, and first-aid supplies accessible in the garage or where you can get to it in an emergency (tucked away in an attic or basement is probably not ideal).



continued on page 3

Earthquakes, Fires and the Occasional Bear
continued from page 2

Fire Safety

Create a defensible space around your home by clearing all dry vegetation, dead trees, and flammable materials. Use fire-resistant plants in your landscaping and keep gutters clean to prevent embers from igniting your home. Install smoke alarms on every floor and test them often.



Bear Days

Bear encounters happen regularly in our foothill communities. Secure your trash cans with bear-proof lids and avoid leaving pet food outside or in your car. If you see a bear, keep your distance and avoid direct contact. Do not try to pet or engage these animals, and keep your pets away from them. No good can come from a dog barking at a bear, either for the dog or the bear itself. Keep your doors and windows secure, and lock your car doors.

Minimize risk for you and your family with these precautions. We live in a beautiful area. Be prepared to handle whatever Mother Nature throws your way with a little preplanning.



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS:

- 3. Nut for roasting
- 7. Neck warmer
- 9. Slightly cold
- 10. An orange fruit often carved for Halloween



DOWN:

- 1. Season after summer
- 2. Home heating system
- 4. Crop gathering time
- 5. Oak tree nut
- 6. Warm and comfy
- 8. Another name for autumn



Coupons



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ANSWER KEY: 1. AUTUMN 2. FURNACE 3. CHESTNUT 4. HARVEST 5. ACORN 6. COZY 7. SCARF 8. FALL 9. CHILLY 10. PUMPKIN



Friendly, knowledgeable employees. Explained what we needed, didn't feel pressured to add unnecessary work. Work was done on time, and they cleaned up any mess that was made. Very satisfied with Air-Tro. — Mike H.

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License Number 258228

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Pigs In A Blanket

Ingredients

- 1 package small cocktail wieners
- 2 packages crescent rolls
- OPTIONAL:** shredded colby jack cheese

Directions

1. Unroll crescent rolls and cut into thirds (makes 3 small, long triangle strips).
2. **OPTIONAL:** Sprinkle shredded cheese over triangles.
3. Starting at one end, roll hot dogs in crescent. Place on greased cookie sheet.
4. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes or until golden brown.
5. Serve with ketchup, mustard or your favorite dipping sauce!

