

Kellam Mechanical, Inc.'s

HOMEsense

Smart & simple ways to enrich your home living.

— IT'S ABOUT TIME! —

Have You Checked Your Duct Performance?

No need to duck this question, as if it's only something the pros know. As a homeowner, you've got a clear view of how your ducts are doing.

Heating and cooling systems rely on ducts to move heated or cooled air among the rooms in your home. When everything's working, you'll be nice and comfortable wherever you are. But if your ducts are falling down on the job, it'll create comfort inconsistencies that no amount of thermostat fiddling can fix.



In a typical home, leaks, holes or poorly connected ducts are trouble spots that waste about 20 to 30 percent of the air moving through duct systems. Though you might not spot the holes on your own, you'll sure notice when all that air-loss adds up to higher energy costs.

The first signs you see will look something like the following:

- High winter and summer utility bills
- Rooms that are difficult to heat/cool
- Rooms that are stuffy and never feel comfortable
 - Ducts located in unconditioned spaces, such as attics, crawlspaces or garages, may cause ducts to sweat or leak.
 - Flexible ducts that are tangled or kinked

A properly sealed duct system resolves these issues, improving comfort and energy efficiency, as well

as indoor air quality and safety. If dust, insulation particles and chemical fumes enter leaky ducts and recirculate through your home, allergies and asthma symptoms may worsen. Similarly, leaky ducts could enable "back drafting" from gas appliances, drawing gases like carbon monoxide back into the living space instead of ventilating outdoors.

Ready to double-check your duct performance? Give us a call.

MY WORD

BY SCOTT KELLAM



Hello Friends,

I sincerely hope you're

enjoying the change of season and taking time for some of your favorite activities.

My favorite thing to do, of course, is to serve people like you. There's something about being around my customers that I really enjoy.

As a matter of fact, I heard recently that happiness is contagious, and it sure makes sense to me. If my customers are

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Your Quick Call Comfort Hotline:

757-430-0358

kellammechanical.com

Smooth Planning for Get-Togethers

— HOT NEW & NOW —

These Fumes Could Be Deadly

Making the switch from cooling to heating creates cozy environments inside for chilly temps outside. This change could also create a very serious problem that you can't hear, see, smell or taste. And it answers to the description "invisible killer."

No, this is not a crime drama to stream for entertainment. It's a poisonous and deadly gas that can stream into your home through faulty heating equipment.

Carbon monoxide (CO) – a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas – is the cause of hundreds of deaths each year in the US. It's found in fumes whenever fuel is burned in cars or trucks, generators, stoves, gas ranges or furnaces. If the equipment is incorrectly vented, improperly used or in need of repair, CO can build

Time for Your System to Come Clean.

Dirt is the #1 cause of comfort system failures. That's why we recommend a Tune-Up before each high-use season. Your system will run more smoothly, use less energy and keep you comfortable year-round. Call **Kellam Mechanical, Inc.** at **757-430-0358** today to schedule your Tune-Up.

up indoors and poison people and pets.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission offers several recommendations in order to keep your home safe from potential carbon monoxide poisoning. These directions include:

- Schedule a Kellam Mechanical qualified technician to perform your Gas Safety Inspection and invest in an annual maintenance program for your heating and cooling equipment.
- Never use portable generators inside homes or garages, even if doors and windows are open.
- Don't use a charcoal grill inside the house or in the garage.
- Install CO alarms near sleeping areas in your home.
- If you suspect CO poisoning, get outside to fresh air immediately, then call 911. Symptoms include: headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness and confusion.

See our Gas Safety inspection coupon on the back page.

— TAKE THAT! (AND THIS TOO!) —

Hire a Pro or Do It Yourself?

Making your own repairs and upgrades could save money, but sometimes homeowners run into trouble when they attempt to do home repairs on their own.

Get help when you need it. Working with electricity and power tools can be dangerous, especially when sharp blades or nearby water sources are involved.

Be careful who you hire. Do research – Ask friends for



Apples Plus Caramels Equals Delicious

Sweets and fall afternoons go together like caramel on apples. What's the best way to indulge your sweet tooth this season?



apples (brush with lemon juice to prevent browning). Fill the hole

with melted caramel. Let it set, then slice.

If you're looking for a brunch treat,

off with warmed apples, caramel sauce and even some walnuts.

Call Kellam Mechancial at 757-430-0358 to schedule your free quote.

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1) Relax. Forget perfection in your planning and execution. Unless you're preparing a meal for the food critic at a fine dining magazine, your focus should probably not be totally on the meal but also on the purpose: having fun together. Large gatherings do require a lot of details, but if you encounter a bump in the road, just recognize it'll make a great story for the next party.

2) Delegate. You don't have to do it all. You'll save on your budget and reduce your own stress when you say "yes" to offers of help. Practice like so: "Would you like for me to bring ice?" Yes. "Can I bring a dessert?" Sure. "How about I bring an appetizer?" Super. See how easy that is?

3) Enjoy. Do the main work in advance, and don't plan a menu that keeps you in the kitchen while your guests are enjoying themselves. Remember: It's your party. Make sure you take part!

check out reputations online. Remember, the lowest bidder isn't necessarily the best choice. Some companies offer low introduction rates, then discover "must-make" repairs once they're

One time-honored favorite is the traditional caramel apples recipe. Simply slide craft sticks into apples and dip them in a mixture of caramel candies (about 14 ounces) and milk (2 tablespoons). Place the apples on a buttered baking sheet, set and enjoy.

For a fun twist on tradition, make your caramel sauce as usual. Then scoop out the center of the

Low-Cost Home Workouts



Looking for an alternative to a pricey gym membership?

Start by turning ordinary household items into

equipment. Chairs can be used for push-ups and dips. Jump ropes are great for aerobic exercise. Old milk jugs and laundry jugs can be filled with water and converted into dumbbells. Got stairs? Go up and

Don't invest in clothes racks. Avoid buying equipment that only sees strength training exercises when you remove the clothes that pile up. Before you make the purchase, make sure you're going to use the equipment. This will save you from buyer's remorse, and keep you from wasting valuable storage space.

Buy smart. When you know what you want to purchase, save money by checking out online classifieds for used equipment. Just make sure it's in good working order before you shell out the cash. Also, for a great workout, you can buy or stream exercise videos for low-cost classes right in the privacy and

MY WORD

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happy, then I'm happy. See how contagious that is?

Remember, cold weather is just ahead. Be sure to call us for your preseason tune-up so you and your family will be ready. We're happy to help however we can. Plus, check out the coupons in this season's newsletter...

You'll save on our services, which is a great benefit. If you're not going to use the discounts, feel free to share them with friends or family.

Tell 'em Kellam.

Sincerely,



Scott Kellam

— QUICK TIPS —

Finding a Stud. The studs in your wall are good spots for securely hanging heavy pictures or other objects. If you don't have a stud finder, try an electric razor (but this has nothing to do with shaving). Run the razor across the wall and listen for a change in tone as it crosses the stud.



Smart & simple ways to enrich your home living.



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PRE SEASON GAS SAFETY INSPECTION

So...you love your gas appliances? But, you've got to be careful. If not properly maintained, carbon monoxide leaks can be a silent killer. No need to worry, here's what you do: Call Kellam Mechanical to schedule a NATE certified technician to perform a thorough gas safety inspection of all of your gas appliance piping to ensure a safe and warm winter season for your home...

***Furnace *Boiler *Water heater *Stove *Fireplace *Dryer**

Gas Safety Inspection...ONLY \$69 Safe Family...Priceless!

AND...take \$25 off carbon monoxide detector

Call Kellam Mechanical at 757-430-0358

www.kellammechanical.com

Know someone who needs a gas safety inspection?

Tell 'em Kellam

*Limited to the first 45 callers and offer ends 10/31/16

FAST FIX

What's on Your Chore Calendar?

To better manage the routine of keeping your house clean, make a list of all the chores you need to do, create a weekly schedule for accomplishing these tasks and complete one big chore each day. With goals set, a chore calendar helps keep you on track.