

CAHI MONTHLY NEWS



Presidents Corner

Everybody I talk to is knee deep in work. Remember to come up for air from time to time. Give the Mrs. a kiss and say hi to the kids. Oh yeah, and spend a little of that money your making!

On Tuesday, May 31st, I attended the state Foundation Training Seminar in Hartford along with board members Scott Monforte, Bill Kievit, and Kevin Morey and several other CAHI members. There were between 55 and 60 people in attendance, some municipal building officials, most were CT home inspectors. Richard Maloney and Kaylee Yerkes-Ribeiro represented the state DCP, and Dwight Uffer, Joseph Callahan, Coventry Building Official, and Dennis Milanovich, PE CT Building Official and Town engineer for the Town of Stafford comprised the panel of experts. Attendance may have been less than the true interest level because of three factors. Poor choice of time and date being first thing after Memorial Day Weekend. There was a bad accident south of Hartford on I91 that morning. And this class was not well advertised with objectives and expected results.

Since we had Dwight speak to us in detail about AAR, my reason for attending was to represent CAHI, get a feel for where the state was on this issue, and to ask a few questions to clarify a few concerns I had. One of my questions was; what are the objectives of this meeting? Another is; what should be expected of licensed home inspectors? Although we asked for a meeting like this months ago and were turned down, this meeting was inspired by Realtor complaints that inspectors were making calls to replace foundations or advising expensive testing where not warranted. The state wanted to make sure we know what to look for and when and how to make the call. Thank you very much DCP. How are the other 400+ home inspectors supposed to get this information? Will this panel provide any online, videos, pictures or testing/evaluation methodology? Can this issue of AAR or spider web/map cracking be found and reported as part of a visual inspection?

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Meeting Dates!

June 22nd

Residential sources of inflow & infiltration (water) to sanitary sewer systems.

by **George Adair**
Engineer with the
Town of Walligford

Brief overview of how sanitary treatment plants work.

MONTHLY MEETINGS – Details & Info

CAHI's regular monthly meetings are held at the Best Western located at 201 Washington Ave (RT 5), North Haven. Meetings are free to members. Most meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 7-9pm. Guests are always welcome! Guests may attend 2 free monthly meetings to experience our presentations, meet our members, and receive a CE attendance certificate.

Joining CAHI may be done at anytime of the year through our Membership Page

Presidents Corner *continued*

The presentation was a watered down version of what Dwight presented to us at our meeting. It was clear that this was thrown together so to speak as an informational presentation for inspectors who were not familiar with AAR. While they offered no definitive inspection procedure, they want us to differentiate between NORMAL cracking and cracks related to AAR which in their eyes is map cracking.

Dennis Milanovich stated he did not believe in the core testing method, but felt an ultrasound testing of the foundation was in order. He stated that the testing can be performed by a company out of Massachusetts for about \$2500. Oh, by the way Mr. Maloney stated that the panel's views were not necessarily the views of the DCP. When should this ultrasound testing be done and who should pay for it?

The state views the problem area in the northeast as "ground zero". I asked if there were any other documented cases of AAR in other parts of the state, they refused to acknowledge or identify any other area in the state where AAR problems have been discovered. I pointed out the poor attendance and asked why it was not mandatory, no answer. Most questions for the attendees were halfheartedly answered.

No support or direction was offered to home inspectors other than to follow the standards when inspecting the foundation. I stated the fact that a single hair line crack that would have been of no concern prior to becoming aware of the AAR phenomenon now could develop into map cracking over time, which could lead to a complaint or lawsuit against the inspector. Mr. Maloney stated that the DCP would investigate all complaints and if we followed the standards, would exonerate the inspector. When I asked him if he realized that most complaints regarding home inspections go directly to an attorney, not to DCP, he moved on to the next question.

The state is still waiting for the investigative report from UCONN, originally thought to be completed in April now expected in late summer or the fall. They of course will "digest it" and then share it with us. So in a nut shell, the meeting was of no help to us as a profession, in my opinion.

I have been in contact with Kent Mawhinney regarding this matter. I will share his views and recommendations as soon as we pull all our information together and sort it out. In the mean time, be diligent, err on the side of caution, and choose your words carefully!

Stan

CAHI Special Event

Initial Training Program for Radon Testing Certification

NRSB Approved

Who: CAHI Members *ONLY*

What: Two Days of Great Training and
NRSB Initial Certification/Recertification.

When: Class is June 28th and 29th from 9:00am to 5:00pm.
Exam is June 29th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Where: Best Western in North Haven (our regular place)
201 Washington Street.

How: The cost for event with first time certification with test is \$250,
recertification with quiz is \$199. You must register by 14 June
at our web site and pay with a credit card.

- This course and certification is usually about \$575.00 and no food provided.
- With this CAHI Special you will get breakfast and lunch on both days for the lower costs of \$250.00 or \$199.00

Sign Up Deadline is 14 June

No signups or payment at the door.

NO REFUNDS, NO EXCEPTIONS.

Editor's Note: The following is reprinted from **Working RE Inspector**, a nationwide print magazine exclusively for home inspectors. If you are not a subscriber, you can read it here.

Dew Point – *Mysterious Mix of Water and Temperature*

By Tom Feiza, Mr. Fix-It, Inc.

Dew point affects many home issues and mechanical systems. Basic principles of science explain how dew point works and how this relates to home inspections.

Dew Point Basics

Invisible water vapor is always present in the air. At times, it condenses as visible moisture. Dew point is expressed as a certain temperature. Outdoors, when the air temperature drops below the dew point, condensation occurs, causing rain to fall—for example, it rains when a cold front moves in.

You can also see dew point at work on a hard surface, such as the outside of a glass of water. If the temperature of the drinking glass is below the dew point of the air around it, water condenses on the outer surface of the glass. When you see moisture forming on a surface, think: “The temperature of the surface is below the dew point temperature of the air.” That’s all you need to remember.

But what does dew point mean to home inspectors? Here are some situations you’re likely to encounter.

Window Condensation in Cold Climates

Dew point is at work when condensation occurs on cold windows (See Figure 1).

During the winter, window glass is often the coldest surface in the home. Cold air drops along the glass to the sill. The glass stays even colder when an interior screen or shade keeps radiant heat in the room from reaching the glass. The temperature of the glass is below the dew point temperature of interior air, so condensation forms. If the glass is colder than 32 degrees Fahrenheit (F), ice will form (See Figure 2).

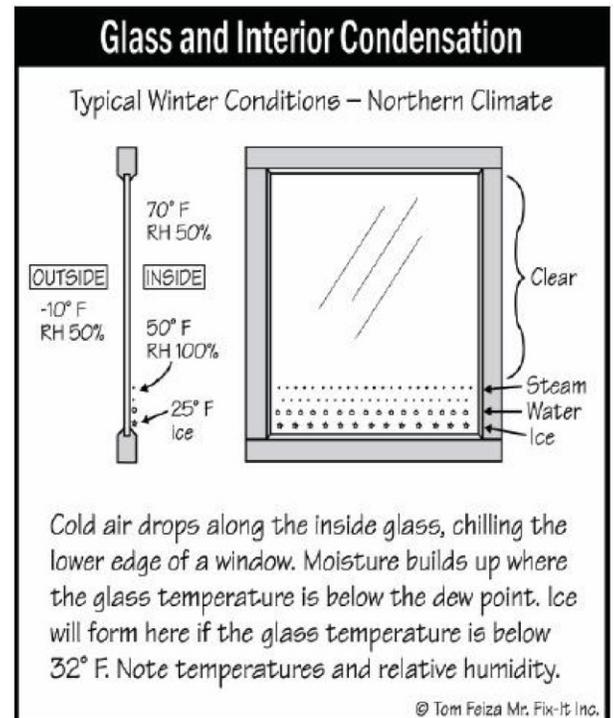


Figure 1



Figure 2

What should you tell customers with window condensation problems? “The temperature of the glass is below the dew point temperature.” There are two ways to remedy this: either raise the temperature of the glass or reduce the moisture in the air. Glass temperature increases along with higher outdoor temperature, higher indoor temperature, open shades, or even indoor air movement. Set up a small fan to blow air on the problem window; the moisture will go away, because air movement raises the temperature of the glass.

Condensation in Hot, Humid Climates

In hot, humid climates, condensation forms on the outside of windows (See Figure 3).

The home’s air conditioning cools the window. The cooling effect eventually reaches the outside of the glass, and when it drops below the dew point temperature of the air, condensation occurs on the outside.

Exterior glass condensation can also occur in cold climates when air conditioning is running and the air is hot and humid. If the air cools overnight and drops below the dew point temperature of the glass, condensation occurs.

Dew Point and Central Air Conditioning

You already know that air conditioning lowers indoor air temperature and removes moisture, which drains away from the air conditioner through a condensate (water) drain line. This process, too, involves dew point. The evaporator coil remains at about 45 degrees F. A fan blows home air across the coil, and since the coil is below the dew point temperature, the air is cooled and moisture forms on the cold coil.

100 Degrees in Arizona – but It’s Dry Heat

Why do we feel cooler when air is dry? Because the dew point temperature is low. Dry air allows water to evaporate from our skin as invisible vapor at a faster rate. The dry air is looking for water.

When water evaporates from our skin, it changes phase from bulk water to vapor. Our warm body transfers heat to the water so it can evaporate (boil). As the change of phase takes place (boiling), the body is cooled. It takes 144 BTU of energy for each pound of water evaporating from our skin.

You can test this yourself by jumping into a pool. When you get out, you will feel colder as the moisture on your skin evaporates into invisible water vapor in the air. More wind or other air movement causes more evaporation.

Wind Chill Effect

Let’s say you live in a cold climate. What is that “wind chill” the weather person talks about? On a windy day, the wind chill temperature is below the air temperature. That’s because when skin is subjected to air movement, we feel cooler. The water on our skin evaporates (boils) into invisible water vapor, and heat transfers from the body to evaporate water at a faster rate. Wind also breaks through the thin layer of warm air surrounding the skin, increasing the rate of convection away from skin.



Figure 3

Heat Index

OK, let's boil that water from our skin again – remember it takes energy for the change of phase from water to vapor. When the air is hot and humid, the dew point is high. The moisture on our skin evaporates at a slower rate because the air is already saturated with water. When less water evaporates from our skin, we feel warmer.

Swamp/Evaporative Coolers

In hot, dry, desert-like climates, it makes sense to cool homes with swamp coolers or evaporative coolers. A typical swamp cooler sits on the roof, with ductwork connecting it to the home's interior (See Figure 4).

The swamp cooler itself contains evaporative material saturated with water. A fan draws in dry, hot outdoor air and moves it across the material. The water on the material evaporates (boils) into invisible water vapor and heat is removed from the air. The system needs a water supply. A small pump constantly floods water into a pan holding the evaporative medium. These units do add moisture and raise the dew point temperature of the air, but since the air was desert-dry before it entered the system, adding a little moisture doesn't make the home's interior uncomfortable. The system requires constant maintenance, because circulating outdoor air draws dirt into the evaporative medium and the water.

Old, Dry and Drafty Homes

Imagine a drafty old house during a cold winter. Air leaking in from outdoors makes the interior of this house cool and dry – and kids have great fun shuffling their feet on the rug to create shocks from static electricity. Figure 5 shows that when we take typical outdoor air at 30 degrees F and 80% relative humidity and heat it to 70 degrees F indoors, the relative humidity drops to 20% but the dew point stays at 25 degrees F (See Figure 5).

That cold outdoor air really dries out a home as it moves indoors. It doesn't cause condensation on interior surfaces because the indoor temperature is above the dew point of 25 degrees F.

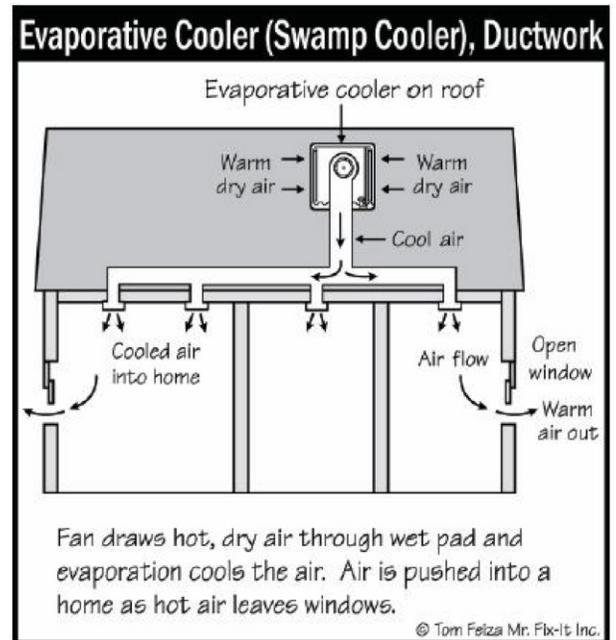


Figure 4

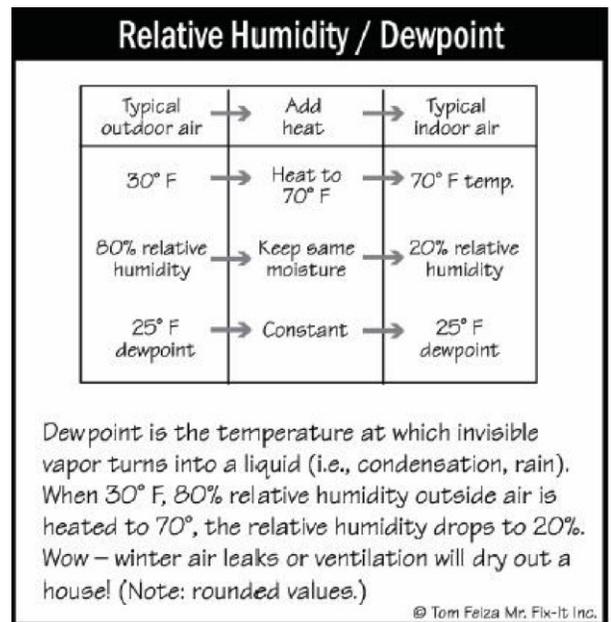


Figure 5

Dripping Bath Fan in Cold Climate

Another situation you might encounter: water dripping around the housing or below the discharge duct of a bath fan (See Figure 6).

When the damper sticks open, warm air moves up into the cold duct or cold air drops into the duct. The duct is below the dew point temperature of the air, and if enough moisture forms, the fan drips into the bathroom.

Attic Mold in Cold Climate

If there's mold on the roof deck, it must be below the dew point temperature, right? Water is essential to mold growth. Mold occurs on the roof structure and deck in a cold climate because the framing and deck have been wet over time.

Warm, moist interior air is leaking into the attic through gaps around light fixtures, plumbing and electrical penetrations and around the chimney. As the warm, moist air contacts the cold roof deck, it is cooled below the dew point temperature. Water forms and mold grows on the attic dirt and wood. The solution involves stopping those air leaks. Installing air seals between the heated space and the attic will address this problem.

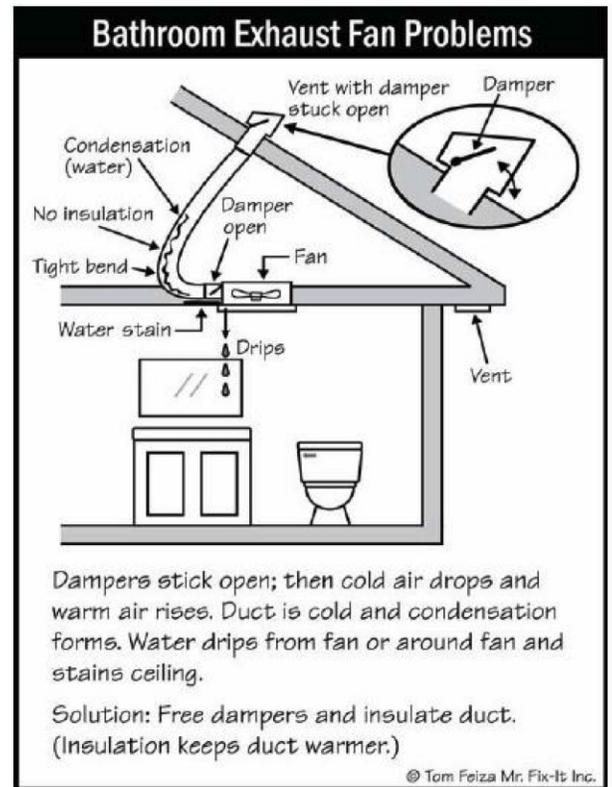


Figure 6

Always remember the answer to condensation questions: “The surface temperature is below the dew point temperature.” And remember the solution: raise the surface temperature or lower the moisture level in the air around the cool surface.

Visit HowToOperateYourHome.com for high-quality marketing materials that help professional home inspectors boost their business.

About the Author

Tom Feiza has been a professional home inspector since 1992 and has a degree in engineering. Through HowToOperateYourHome.com, he provides high-quality marketing materials that help professional home inspectors boost their business.

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Hosted by OREP, featuring veteran inspector and builder, code guru and litigation consultant Jerry Peck.

About Jerry Peck

Jerry Peck has been in construction since 1972, first as a contractor then as an inspector. He has been inspecting since 1991. He is the owner and principle of Construction Litigation Consultants, LLC and does construction consulting, construction defect litigation consulting, and personal injury litigation consulting when related to construction of new and existing buildings. He has consulted with clients across the state of Florida and throughout the Southeast, as well as having had cases from other states, including Arizona, Kentucky, Oregon, Montana and New Jersey to name a few. Jerry is a licensed General Contractor, Plans Examiner and code Inspector in Florida. He also does code consulting related to the Florida Building Codes and the International Building Codes, along with various state codes based on the International Building Codes. Jerry says that “He tries to make the boring, technical stuff less boring, more interesting and easier to understand – so that we all learn from each other.”

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Are septic additives necessary?

THE PRIVATE WELL
CLASS



Dear Al,

Can your septic system (or your neighbor's) impact the quality of your well water? You betcha! We're excited to announce that a date has been set for the return of our popular Septic Systems 101 webinar.

In this free training you'll understand how your septic system works and the best practices of septic system care to ensure your water supply remains safe. As always we'll begin with a short presentation covering the most common questions, followed by plenty of time for additional Q&A. Here are the details:

Septic Systems 101
July 6, 2016 from 1-2:30 p.m. CDT

[Register for the webinar](#)

This is an opportunity to ask questions about properly caring for a septic system to protect your family's health and the environment. Questions may be submitted after you register or live on the webinar. The event will be recorded.

The Private Well Class Team

Please feel free to forward this message to anyone who might be interested!

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How Different Types of Home Air Conditioning Systems Work

By Bob Formisano - Home Repair Expert

The terms used to describe types of air conditioners and how they work can be confusing, for example:

- Unitary,
- PTAC (packaged terminal air conditioner),
- Window,
- Portable,
- Central,
- Split,
- Ductless systems, and so on.

In this tutorial we will review the most commonly used air conditioning and cooling systems in the home and their terminology. Be sure to also review the [Top 7 Air Conditioning Tutorials You Need to Read!](#)



Remote control for split system AC unit.
std/Moment Open/Getty Images

Types of Cooling Systems

There are several types of cooling systems you may have in your home. They range from units installed in a window, to units rolling around on the floor, to units mounted on a wall, to central air conditioning. All the systems use the same five elements of an air conditioning system consisting of refrigerant, compressor, condenser, expansion valve, evaporator coil as described in [How Air Conditioning Works](#). Let's review the most common types of air conditioning systems in the home.

Window Air Conditioner

This system is technically called a “unitary” air conditioning system and consists of a self contained air conditioning unit that is placed in a window or through a hole in an exterior wall. Since adding holes in your home's outside walls are not a really good idea, these units are almost always placed in a window. The unitary system has all the refrigeration components on one compact box. It ejects heat out one end and blows cooled air out the other end.

Portable Air Conditioner

This system is another flavor of the unitary air conditioning system. The portable air conditioner consists of a mobile self contained air conditioning unit that is placed on the floor inside a room and discharges exhaust heat using a hose vent through an exterior wall. Portable air conditioning units are a bit noisier than other types of units and can typically cool rooms under 500 SF. These units are a solution to those stubborn hot rooms that may exist even with central air conditioning. Like the window air conditioner, the portable unitary system has all the refrigeration components on one compact box. It also ejects heat out one end and blow cooled air out the other end.

Split or Ductless Air Conditioner

The split system or ductless system is technically called a “packaged terminal air conditioner” or PTAC. You see these occasionally in home applications but more commonly in hotels, motels and apartments. The split system breaks the air conditioning system into two packages or terminal units and refrigerant tubing passes through the wall connecting both package units.

One terminal package is the condensing unit located on the exterior and includes the compressor, condenser and condenser fan. The other terminal package is the evaporative unit located on the interior and handles air cooling and distribution. The internal evaporative unit includes the fan, expansion valve and evaporator coil.

Central Air Conditioning

The central air conditioning system is the premium cooling solution for your home. It is the quietest, best performing and most comfortable. The only real risk is that the system be sized appropriately for your home. If it is sized too large it will not perform well and will not adequately dehumidify and may also short cycle. Proper maintenance of a central air conditioning system is also very important.

The central air conditioning system is made up of two packaged units, the condensing unit and the evaporative unit. Both are connected by refrigerant tubing. The condensing unit is the large boxy unit that sits outside and consists of the compressor, condensing coils and condensing fan. The evaporative unit typically sits in the plenum of your furnace so the air conditioning can use the same ductwork as your heating system. In the plenum, the evaporative unit consists of the evaporator coil and expansion valve.

Improve Home Cooling with Window Air Conditioning Tricks

By Bob Formisano - Home Repair Expert

Air conditioning amazes me to this day. Although I understand in concept how air conditioning works, I just appreciate the creature comfort of cool dehumidified air blowing on me on a hot muggy summer day.

Before central air conditioning was common, folks would cool their homes with one or more window mounted room air conditioners. Maybe you don't want to spend the money for central air or maybe installation of central air is just not practical in your situation. In any case, I thought I would share with you some ways to improve cooling in your home without going to a central air system by using one or more window air conditioning units and some room fans.



A properly sized window air conditioner and box fans can cool more than one room. © Home-Cost.com 2014

The objective with home cooling using window units is to get an adequate cooling capacity (unit size in BTU) and getting the air to flow in as much of an unobstructed manner as possible. And where there are obstructions (like walls) we'll create the air flow direction we want with the use of simple 16 inch electric fans strategically placed in doorways.

The idea is to draw the cool air conditioned air into the remote rooms with the fans located in the doorway and you can use multiple fans to "bend" the cool air flow around corners.

To make this all work it starts with picking out the best location for the window air conditioner that will serve the floor. Ideally you'll want to pick a window that is on a central hallway which feeds the rooms you want to cool. If that is not appropriate for your floor plan, then choose a room near the center of the floor. That location will reduce the amount of cool air flow needed. If you can pick a room where the main secondary room you want to cool is across the hall and nearby, then even better. Airflow will want to stay in as much a straight line as possible so don't expect it to bend around corners easily. It will more efficiently follow more of a "nudge" in a slight bend through careful placement of the fans.

If you have a situation where you need to force air past more than two doorways or around a sharp bend as I described above, then you may need a second window air conditioner.

Here is another weird trick you can use if you have a forced air furnace with ductwork. Try and have the room air conditioner blow its cold dehumidified air towards a return air grill or register of your furnace heating system. Then turn on the blower fan on your thermostat setting ("fan only") to move the cool air through the home. The better job you do directing the air to the return air register the better the results.

These tips will not be as efficient or quiet as a whole house central air conditioning system but if you do not have that option available to you, then the above tricks can help get you a cooler home this summer.

Be cool!

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HVAC Air Duct Cleaning: Necessary or Not?

A popular HVAC “maintenance” item that seems to get a lot of attention is that of duct cleaning. It seems like a logical maintenance activity but cleaning the air ducts in your home’s HVAC system may not be as good an idea as it intuitively seems.

Let’s explore some of the issues.

Do ducts get dusty? Yes.

Is that normal? Yes.

Should you regularly clean your ductwork? No.

Unlike dryer duct cleaning which should be regularly checked and cleaned, no independent objective organization recommends HVAC duct cleaning as an essential part of routine HVAC system maintenance.

In fact the Environmental Protection Agency states the “EPA does not recommend that air ducts be cleaned except on an as-needed basis because of the continuing uncertainty about the benefits of duct cleaning under most circumstances.”

It also states...“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.”

Now I’m not saying duct cleaning is a bad idea, just that it is not necessarily good or even, well, necessary in most cases. In this link I’ll show you a picture of the interior of ductwork from my home built in 1937. The duct has never been cleaned. See what you think.

Properly performed, duct cleaning can be useful in limited situations such as if the ducts are filthy or infested with mice or other vermin, or if you see evidence of significant visible mold growth in the ducts or on the mechanical components of the HVAC system that come in contact with air. But cleaning normally dusty ducts provides no real value.

Frightening “before” and “after” duct photos may make great discount coupon photos but chances are rare that your ducts are in bad shape. If your ducts are seriously filthy enough to require it to be cleaned, then you should clean the entire HVAC system (more on that later), not just the ducts themselves.

Please understand that duct cleaning uses specialized tools to agitate and dislodge dirt in the ducts to make the dirt and other contaminants increasingly loose and airborne before they are vacuumed out. Sometimes the ducts are cut for tool access and needs to be carefully resealed. Then a powerful vacuum system is used to remove the loosened dirt and contaminants. If this is not done properly you can do more harm than good.

For example, if the vacuum hose / containment system is not sealed tightly and exhausting contaminants to the outside, or if a HEPA filtration system is not used in an interior vacuum system, you can wind up releasing dirt and contaminants into your home’s interior. As part of the duct cleaning process, your ducts may have service holes cut into it for tool or vacuum hose access that may not be properly sealed after use, or HVAC system components could be taken apart and damaged or not reinstalled properly, and so on.

So how do you minimize risk? Well, start by selecting and using a qualified contractor. Duct and HVAC system cleaning performed properly and by a NADCA (National Air Duct Cleaning Association) trained and certified operator has the best chance of being done safely. According to NADCA, the major trade association for contractors doing air duct / HVAC system cleaning, its members need to have at least one certified Air Systems Cleaning Specialist (ASCS) on staff and they are responsible to clean and restore a customer's HVAC system accordance with the association's standards and guidelines. Of course NADCA certification is no guarantee of a problem free experience but it does at least improve your chances. I would not have my home's ducts cleaned without the contractor being NADCA certified.

Duct Cleaning or HVAC System Cleaning

Part of the confusion in discussing duct cleaning services is that duct cleaning is often included as a part of an overall HVAC system cleaning. As a matter of fact, since the only time cleaning your ducts is required is when they are contaminated, it follows that if you need to clean the ducts, then you need to clean the entire HVAC system that comes in contact with the air moving through the ducts. That is the philosophy taken by NADCA.

NADCA recommends duct cleaning as part of an overall HVAC system cleaning that includes replacing / cleaning the air filter, cleaning grilles and diffusers, checking drain pans and drain lines for proper drainage, checking the heat exchanger and cooling coils, grills, furnace air plenum, blower motor, etc. They provide a useful Checklist for Residential Consumers that explains their recommended process in more detail.

According to NADCA the following items should be covered in a HVAC cleaning service:

HVAC Ducts

- Clean main supply duct and branch distribution ducts;
- Clean return air ducts;
- Seal all installation access panels in ducts (as needed for tool access) according to NADCA standards.

Grills and Diffusers

- Remove and visibly clean supply registers and return air grilles;

Furnace Plenums

- Clean furnace supply air plenum and return air plenum;

Furnace Components

- Clean furnace heat exchanger;
- Remove, clean and reinstall blower motor; housing & assembly;
- Check humidifier media and drain pan;
- Clean evaporator coil, drain, and pan drain;
- Ensure cooling coil is visibly clean and drain pan is clean and draining properly;
- Furnace Air Filter

- Replace air filter or wash permanent media air filter.

Be prepared to pay around \$500 to \$1,000.00 for a professional duct / HVAC system cleaning servicing, more or less depending on the location, size of your home and scope of what is cleaned. It will usually take 2 technicians 3 to 5 hours to clean the ducts and the HVAC system.

SCAMS: Beware of the “Blow and Go”

Problems emerge when duct cleaning is not performed properly. And not being performed properly often resulted from hiring someone who promises to give you a cheap \$50 “whole house special” or makes a sales pitch based on broad generalized claims on the health benefits of duct cleaning. Some may even falsely claim to be EPA (environmental Protection Agency) certified which the EPA does not provide, or say the EPA recommends duct cleaning which it again does not recommend.

Be aware of what are called “blow-and-go” salesmen / “contractors” who you may find in those mail-pack coupons. They usually accompany an offer to assess or clean your home’s ducts for a very cheap price, say \$49.95 or even less. As they often work on commission they will try high pressure sales techniques to sell you on expensive add-on services (mold testing, etc) or other service upgrades or charge for duct restoration, branch duct cleaning, etc. Some may even falsely claim they found mold in your ducts. Complaints abound about some unscrupulous “blow-and-go” companies using air fragrances, false mold tests showing positive results, hand held dust-buster vacuums, using simple drills with brushes, creating air borne dust and not sealing service access holes cut into ductwork.

I know the allure of a low price can be attractive but do the math! You cannot get 2 qualified service technicians with a truck and proper equipment and insurance to go to your home to service your ducts and HVAC system for 4 hours and do this work for \$50!

Here is an interesting duct cleaning scam expose video done by NBC Dateline on duct cleaning scams.

Bottom Line

Duct cleaning is an emotional sell. You want good air quality for you and your family and intuitively cleaning the ducts in your home makes sense. Some marketing photos of dirty ducts can look pretty scary. But the reality is that ducts only needs to be cleaned in rare cases, when there is serious contamination in them and then the entire HVAC system should be cleaned, not just the ducts. Cleaning ducts is easy to do wrong and that is where the risk lies. Hiring the wrong contractor can do more harm than good, and falling prey to “\$50 Whole House Specials” in those coupon books you receive in the mail is a sure way to invite a bad experience.

Properly performed by a qualified technician, HVAC system cleaning including duct cleaning, has not been shown to be detrimental, but again, that’s if it is done correctly and by a certified technician with the right equipment and training.

At the end of the day, the EPA sums it up by saying “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.”

CARTOONS

By Ted Glover

HOMEY SPECTOR

YOU DON'T NEED TO LOOK UP THERE. MY HUSBAND INSULATED THE ATTIC WHEN HE REPLACED THE ROOF!



DID HE BUILD A DAM AROUND THE HATCH?



WELL, I'M SURE HE MUST HAVE



By Ted Glover

WHAT EXACTLY DID YOU MEAN BY DAM?



HOMEY SPECTOR

HI MR. SPECTOR, THIS IS BEA ITCHY FROM "SELL IT AGAIN" REALTY. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY AN AD IN OUR MAGAZINE?



WE GOT YOUR NAME FROM YOUR BROCHURE



YOU MEAN THE BROCHURE THAT YOU KEEP CLOSED UP IN A CABINET WITH THE BROCHURES OF THE OTHER INSPECTORS THAT YOU DON'T RECOMMEND?!



SO... WOULD THAT BE A "NO" THEN?



Ted Glover

HOMEY SPECTOR

I'M A COOK DOWNTOWN, SO THE KITCHEN IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME.



AND I ASK A LOT OF STUPID QUESTIONS.



THERE ARE NO STUPID QUESTIONS.

IS THIS STOVE GAS OR ELECTRIC?



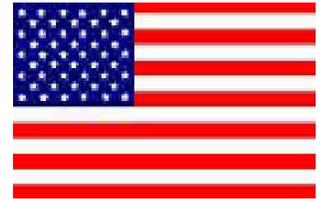
Ted Glover

Contact CAHI c/o
 Scott Monforte
 39 Baker St.
 Milford, CT. 06461

Email: info@ctinspectors.com

Web: www.ctinspectors.com

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CAHI Executive Board		CAHI Presidents	CT Home Inspection Licensing Board	
President	Stanley Bajerski 203-257-1694	Bernie Caliendo	William Stanley, Chairman	Inspector
		Robert Dattilo	Rich Kobylenski	Inspector
Vice President	Scott Monforte 203-877-4774	Woody Dawson	Larry Willette	Inspector
		Michael DeLugan	Bruce Schaefer	Inspector
Treasurer	Dan Kristiansen 203-257-0912	David Hetzel	David Sherwood	Inspector
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		Joseph Pelliccio	Daniel Scott	Public Member
Director	William Kievit 860-919-4960	Pete Petrino	<p>The Licensing Board meetings are held at 9:30 am Dept of Consumer Protection 165 Capitol Avenue. Hartford The public is always welcome.</p>	
Director	Kevin Morey 203-375-5997	Dwight Uffer		
Director	Woody Dawson 203-272-7400	They have served as our primary leaders and in other capacities since 1992.		
Director	Al Dingfelder 203-376-8452	Please thank them for their service when you have a chance.		

Published by: Larry Ruddy
 Larryhp@cox.net