

Summer 2006



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The New A/C Energy Rating

Effective this year, the Federal Government has increased the minimum energy efficiency rating from a SEER 10 to a SEER 13 (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio). What does this mean for the consumer? Obviously a more efficient running system costing less to operate, but will typically have a larger price tag involved. This especially holds true if only your compressor/condenser has failed. Instead of just replacing that exterior half of the A/C system, you'll now need to replace the evaporator coil and refrigerant lines as well to achieve the SEER 13 rating.

Contractors and distributors are still allowed to sell and install all remaining stock of the SEER 10 units. Phil McIntyre, Licensed Heating Contractor and owner of "The Furnace Guy", says it typically takes 5-7 years to recuperate the additional expense of installing a SEER 13 system. If your A/C is an older one or a failing one and you want to minimize your installation costs, consider contacting a licensed heating contractor today for availability of a SEER 10 system that might fit your needs.

Don't forget to have your A/C system serviced annually to ensure it is functioning optimally. The best time to do this is before the first hot days of summer, otherwise scheduling can be more difficult.



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Our website not only contains information about a home inspection, but also has valuable links to maintenance and remodeling information for home owners.

By clicking on the selection for "Homeowner Links", a user will be able to go directly to Scotts lawncare website, or one of my favorites, themoleman.com, where you can learn to combat those pesky moles in your yard. Another top choice for links is cpsc.gov for the Consumer Product Safety Council. Here, a user can look up product safety recalls, and it doesn't have to be related to a house, they cover all different categories, published by the month of the recall. A link to epa.gov is provided where you'll find endless data on Radon gas.

Current pricing is also on the website with occasional special discounts.

Another new addition to the site, and something we're really proud of, is the fundraiser we're coordinating to support our local American Red Cross chapter. This fundraiser will be a bicycle ride along M-43 from Kalamazoo to the lake shore at South Haven. The ride will take place on Sunday, July 23rd at 8am. We're still looking for more people interested in making the ride, so check out the details under "Mi Ride For Red".

