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HBMcCLURE

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connections

Keeping Cool Issue 2017

Plumbing ❖ Heating & Cooling ❖ Back-up Generators ❖ Electrical ❖ Oil & Propane Delivery

A Letter from the Management Team

Bigger and Better Brings Benefits

The employee-owners of HB McClure appreciate your loyal patronage and look forward to serving your family's comfort needs for years to come. With your support, our firm has grown greatly over the past few years.

When you have an emergency, such as a leaking pipe or no air conditioning; you want the problem resolved as quickly and economically as possible. If your system needs replaced, you deserve a prompt, professional installation.

We have purposefully invested in our capacity to better serve our clients. We currently operate out of locations in Harrisburg, York and Harleysville; and employ over 500 of the industry's most friendly and knowledgeable staff. Our field fleet has expanded to nearly 300 vehicles. That means we will likely have a skilled technician, in a stocked service van, just around the corner from you—willing and able to deliver the high level of service you have come to expect from HB McClure.

Bigger is not always better; but in our case we believe that it is. With our increased buying power, we receive volume discounts on parts, supplies, and equipment. We are pleased to pass those savings along to our clients.

We remain committed to best-in-class service with the hope and expectation that we turn our clients into 'raving fans' of HB McClure. To make sure we stay focused on this mission we have instituted a new survey process. Your feedback is vital to our continued success and we invite you to complete the brief questionnaire we provide on every service call and system replacement installation.

Warmly,
Bob McClure and Bob Whalen



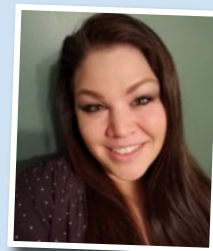
Robert McClure and Bob Whalen

To make sure we stay focused on the mission of providing best-in-class service, your feedback is vital to our continued success.

Co-Owner Spotlight

Courtney Trione

Sales
Coordinator



Many of you have had the pleasure of speaking with Courtney Trione. In her role Courtney schedules our comfort consultant visits to your home to discuss system replacements, plumbing work, or our oil/propane delivery programs. We have enjoyed her bubbly personality and strong work ethic since 2007.

She has been married for nearly two years and in her spare time she enjoys photography, spending time with friends and family, and trying new foods.



Follow us on
Facebook and Twitter

3 Spring Safety Must Do's:

A little home maintenance in the spring can go a long way to keeping your home safe and secure throughout the rest of the year.



Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries

Daylight Savings Time is a great semi-annual reminder to check your smoke and CO alarms. Replace the batteries, clean the covers and test each detector's operation. There should be at least one smoke detector on each floor of your home, including the hallway, and one in each bedroom itself, and a CO detector on each level of your home.

Trim trees and bushes

Visually inspect trees for damage or rot, and remove any dead trees that might blow over in heavy winds or during a storm. Keep trees healthy and trimmed away from utility wires. Trim shrubs around the home where burglars can hide.



Clean out dryer vent pipe

Dryer lint can build up inside the vent pipe and collect around the duct. Clean both the exhaust duct and the space under the dryer. Lint can also build up inside the dryer enclosure and should be cleaned and serviced by a professional. Clean vents ensures they are not safety concerns related to fires.

Outdated and Unsafe Electrical Panels Could be Hiding in Your Home



If you own a home built before 1990, you might have outdated main electric panels or boxes hiding in your home.

Electrical panels contain safety devices, either fuses or circuit breakers, that trip and shut off the power when too much electricity flows through them. This helps prevent fires caused by overheating wires. Many homes have old, outdated panels that might not work as intended, leaving them vulnerable to a house fire.

Here are some examples of UNSAFE PANELS you should have inspected and consider replacing if you have them:



Zinsco Panels were prevalent in the 1970s and some of those breakers have been known to melt to the main bus bar; not allowing the breaker to trip.

Federal Pacific Electric [FPE] panels were popular from 1960s – 1980s and some have been found to have breakers that fail to trip when they should, when they are over loaded or if there is a short circuit.



Fuse box type panels are safe as long as the proper fuse size is in use. Often a 15amp fuse has ‘blown’ and then been replaced with a 20amp fuse. That now allows for higher amperage flowing to the circuit than intended. Also, it is common that someone has added electrical appliances to the line served by a fused circuit.



These and other electrical concerns can be addressed with a Gold Shield Electrical inspection from HB McClure

For more information call us or go to:
www.hbmclure.com/electric-panel

“Your tech was very professional during the entire visit. He was willing to explain what he was doing in order to help me better understand my system. He did an excellent job and I would highly recommend him.”
– Ed C., Palmyra

“Diagnosed the problem which was hidden behind wall. Fixed it quickly with no mess, no fuss.”
– Pete B., Mechanicsburg



It's AC Time

Think Gold Shield

Many of you are forward thinkers, realizing the best time to schedule your cooling system tune-up is before it gets hot. This is especially true of customers with Gold Shield Comfort Agreements where the tune-up is included in the protection. You want your system ready before things heat up, so please call us now to schedule!



Comfort Agreement Benefits include:

- **Reduce energy consumption with scheduled maintenance.** Proper adjustments and tune ups can reduce operating costs up to 20%.
- **Extend the life of your equipment** and reduce the likelihood of emergency calls. Correct minor problems before they become major ones.
- **Priority service.** Receive preferential scheduling benefits should a problem arise.

Call to schedule your AC Tune-up today!
717-232-4328

Did you know we also offer Gold Shield agreements for your plumbing and electrical systems too?



For more information call: **717-232-4328**
or visit: www.hbmclure.com/ac-time

Ask the Expert

Repair or Replace?



As we enter a new cooling season we will undoubtedly encounter systems in need of repairs. We are often asked whether the system should be repaired or replaced. That can be difficult to answer, because the answer depends on a series of questions:

- *What is the efficiency, age, and condition of the old equipment?*
- *How much is the proposed repair?*
- *How long do you plan to live in the home?*

To assist you in making an HVAC repair or replace decision, we have a quantitative worksheet on our website for making a recommendation.

Please be aware that there is no bias in this and that we will gladly follow your wishes on how you would like us to proceed. **Our field and sales staff are NON-COMMISSIONED.** Remember that: “We recommend; and let you decide.”

Fill out the worksheet, then talk to us about recommendations for your heating or cooling equipment.

Call **717-232-4328** for details
www.hbmclure.com/repair-replace

5 Ways to Help Your AC System

Pay Attention. Over time dirt and debris builds up inside an air conditioning system, lowering efficiency. This results in an uncomfortable home, more money spent on electricity, risk of costly repairs and loss of your manufacturer’s warranty. Avoid this by having your air conditioning system checked every year.



Don’t Overcool. Program your thermostat at a set level, the sweet spot for most people is 76-79° F. Studies have shown that every degree represents a difference of about 7% in power consumption. A programmable or wireless thermostat can also help maintain these settings.



Run a Ceiling Fan. Ceiling fans cause air movement, which evaporates moisture on the skin and makes you feel cooler. Use kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans sparingly, since they pull cool air out of the house.



Keep Your System Clear.

Ensure plants are 18-30 inches away from the air conditioning unit. This allows the unit to “breathe”, and run more efficiently. Avoid blowing grass clippings and other debris into your system, which reduces efficiency.



Replace Inefficient Systems. If your AC unit is more than 10 years old, you could save 20-40% by replacing it with a newer, more efficient model. You will also avoid the high cost of adding Freon (which is harmful to the environment) to your aging system. See the article to the left for more information about replacing your AC unit.



Repair or Replace Questions: Cooling & Heat Pumps

Age of Your Equipment

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0 - 5 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 - 15 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 - 10 years | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 15 years |

Estimated Cost of Repairs

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 - \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over \$1,000 |

Repairs Covered by Factory Parts or Labor Warranty

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

SEER Rating of Equipment

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Over 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 - 12 | |

SEER is the measure of system cooling efficiency – the higher the number, the more efficient the system.

Type of Refrigerant Used

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> R-410a | <input type="checkbox"/> R-22 |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|

R410a is the environmentally responsible refrigerant that began phased into industry use in the early 2000's. R-22 has been designated for industry phase-out and prohibited from use on new systems since 2010.

Outdoor Equipment Condition

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |

Indoor Equipment Condition

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Average | <input type="checkbox"/> Poor |

Expect to Stay in Home

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Years or Less | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 - 10 Years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 - 5 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 Years |

PROPANE

A Fuel for All Seasons

Are you building a home off the natural gas line? Maybe you're working on an energy efficient remodel, and you're looking for the right power source. Either way, see how adding propane appliances throughout your home will ensure results that are worthy of your time, effort, and investment. It's simple: propane offers comfort that can't be matched by electricity or other energy sources.



Efficient:

Many propane home heating systems achieve 95% efficiencies.



Economical:

Propane can be economical for heating water for home use or for swimming pools.



Clean & Warm:

Indoor and outdoor fireplaces deliver warmth and ambience of real flames with no soot or cleanup.



Back-up Power:

Enjoy peace of mind with a propane-fueled standby electric generator.



Consistency:

Cook like a professional chef with the instant heat and responsiveness of propane ranges and ovens.



Quick Heat:

Clothes drying is faster with fewer wrinkles with a propane dryer.

For propane delivery call: 717-232-4328 or visit: hbmccclure.com/propane-faqs/

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Hershey 717-534-2661

York 717-845-4328

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Lennox System Rebates Up To

\$1700
Savings*

Or

6 Month Deferred
0% Financing*

*Call for details

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Up To **\$200** on Central Air Conditioners
Up To **\$500** on Air Source Heat Pumps
<https://energysavepa-home.com/hvac>

\$200 on Ductless Mini-Split Heat Pumps
\$600 on Geothermal Heat Pumps



\$150 on Central Air Conditioners
\$200 on Air Source Heat Pumps
<https://www.pplelectric.com/ways-to-save/all-rebates.aspx>

Up To **\$400** on Heat Pump Water Heater

Up To **\$200** (per 12,000 BTU/hr.) on Ductless Heat Pumps



\$100 on WiFi Thermostats
\$400 on NG Tankless Water Heater
\$500 on Natural Gas Furnace
<https://www.ugi.com/save-energy-money/residential-natural-gas/>

\$1,500 on Natural Gas Boiler
\$1,800 on Natural Gas Combination Boiler

Utility Rebates (see links for more information)