

H & S Plumbing, Inc.'s

HOME Xpert

Smart & simple ways to enrich your home living



📞 937-836-8725

📞 937-667-1030

🌐 www.hsplumbing.net

Springtime Checklist for Your Plumbing

Water is money. Or it sure feels that way if an undetected leak sends your cash down the drain, thanks to high water bills. Or if the drip, drip, drip of an untended faucet does the same.

To find ways to keep this money for yourself, give your plumbing a closer look. This is especially important now since water usage increases as the months get warmer. So, pay attention to these five areas:

Faucets – Check for drips or leaks, indoor and outdoor, and get them repaired if discovered. A hundred drips a minute can waste 33 gallons a day, experts say.

Toilets – Are your toilets leaking? Try this. Add six drops of food coloring to the toilet tank. If the toilet has a leak, the color will move into the toilet bowl within a half hour. Also, inspect toilet

bowls for cracks, and test flushing mechanisms. If a handle has to be jiggled to keep from running, you may have worn parts.

Drains – Make sure all your drains have strainers to prevent hair, soap and debris from collecting and clogging drains.

Pipes and Hoses – Inspect all exposed pipes for leaks. Also, check your washing machine and dishwasher connecting hoses for signs of wear.

Water Heater – When more than 10 or 12 years old, check for signs of aging, such as rust-colored water, long wait times for hot water, and particularly for water leaking around the heater. Also, check the temperature setting, which should be no higher than 120°F to prevent scalding and reduce energy use.

If you discover any problems, give us a call. We'll help right away.

MY WORD

By Randall Shoup



Dear Friends,

With all of the twists and turns of last year, we're looking forward to 2021. Optimism is a great tool for living resiliently.

My brother Robby died on December 15, 2020. I lost a business partner, a co-worker, and a friend. We made decisions together and worked together as well as hunted and fished together. We lived separate lives, yet we loved, respected, and supported one another. We had worked together most of our lives. I will miss him and his kind, peaceful, helpful disposition. My son Taylor will be a business partner now and I am looking forward to working with him in the future.

Every day, we work hard around here to put our best foot forward for you, and we place a very high value on the trust you place in us. Thank you for that.

Hopefully, we'll see you soon for an inspection. Plus, we can also give you tips on how you can cut utility costs while we're there. So give us a call. We're here to help keep your family comfortable, whenever you need us.

Randall Shoup



Plunging into Plumbing Maintenance You Can Do on Your Own

Plumbing problems come in all sizes – some of which you can try to handle on your own before calling in professional help. You'll save time and money and take pride in a job well done.

The clogged sink drain is one of those problems that can be on the "smallish" side. The preferred solution, of course, is to keep a clog from ever occurring. Pour very hot water down the drain monthly as a preventive measure.

If a clog does form, check for debris or an object blocking the drain by removing and cleaning the sink pop-up stopper or strainer. If the clog's still there, you can try a plunger.

Fill the sink with enough water to cover the head of the plunger. Coating the bottom of the plunger with petroleum jelly would help create a tighter seal. Also, cover the overflow opening (a rag will do), and if this is a double sink, cover the second drain too.

Begin plunging up and down, working the clog free. Try for 15 to 20 forceful strokes, then repeat this process two or three times if it's still not clear.

Caution about Chemical Drain Cleaners

– These can be used occasionally to clear a small clog, but routine use could cause damage to your pipes. Remember, the chemicals are very strong and should be used with care. Also, don't use a plunger if you've already applied a chemical cleaner – because you could splash the chemicals on your skin or in your eyes.

If your clog still isn't clear, just call! We'd be glad to help.



Priority Plumbing Protection Program

Would you like to receive a discount on all plumbing repairs and keep your plumbing system maintained? What will you receive?

- Priority Service: you will get scheduled as soon as a tech becomes available.
- One year warranty instead of 90 days
- Exclusive offers and coupons
- Check your water heater
- Check Toilets
- Check Water Pressure
- Safety Check Your Home: your plumbing system will be fully inspected.

You may also choose one of the following to be done at time of your inspection.

- Flush and drain water heater.
- 50' main drain camera (with accessible clean-out.)
- Check and adjust water closet and dye test.
- Clean burner assembly and/or intake on water heater.
- Clean hair from tub drain.
- Clean hair from lavatory drain.

Call our office to sign up for your "Priority Plumbing Protection Plan."



Pretty Up **YOUR PLUMBING!**

Update your plumbing fixtures and enjoy lots of perks. You can conserve water, improve water pressure and increase home value. Call **H & S Plumbing, Inc.** at **937-836-8725** and let's talk about great-looking options for your home. I also want to pay you \$25 for each fixture, but you must call by **November 30, 2021**.

Check out our website www.hsplumbing.net for monthly savings coupon specials!

Drown Your Debt

1. Fight fees. Learning to negotiate with credit card and other companies can save you hundreds of dollars in fees a year. That skill saves cash you can put toward paying off your other debts.
2. Pay off credit cards with the smallest balance. The immediate sense of victory keeps you motivated to stick to your debt-reduction plan for the long-term.
3. If income drops, drop your spending. Living within your means now is less stressful than paying off piles of debt later.

GET **\$25 OFF** THE BEST SERVICE WE CAN OFFER

For your next plumbing repair, we'd like to make things easier on your wallet.

So just clip this coupon for a **\$25 savings** on your repair bill. Then call us, and we'll give you our best service.

Call **H & S Plumbing, Inc.** at **937-836-8725**.



Springtime Shrimp Pasta

Spring brings bold, bright flavors to the table, and this dish is no exception. Light but filling, you'll get plenty of veggies in with your protein. Even better, you can have a healthy, delicious dinner on the table in under 30 minutes – perfect for busy school nights or rushed weekends. Feel free to customize this recipe, perhaps with chicken or additional vegetables.

- 12 oz. rigatoni
- 3 tbsp. butter
- 3 cloves minced garlic
- 1 bunch of asparagus, quartered
- 1 small yellow pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 small red pepper, thinly sliced
- 1lb. large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- ¼ cup olive oil
- 3 tbsp. of fresh lemon juice
- Kosher salt
- Black pepper

1. Cook pasta according to package instructions.
2. In a large skillet, use medium heat to melt the butter. Add the garlic, asparagus, and peppers. Cook until the vegetables are barely tender.
3. Add the shrimp and cook until pink. Season the whole dish with salt and pepper to taste.
4. In a separate bowl, whisk the olive oil and lemon juice to create a light dressing.
5. Add the pasta to the skillet, toss evenly in the dressing, and serve.



Save Money and Still Have a Backyard Oasis

You don't have to break the bank to have a beautiful yard. In fact, there are simple tricks to getting the yard you want, even on a limited budget:

Buy smaller plants. Mature plants cost more and grow more slowly. While smaller plants may look smaller at first, you'll cash-in in the long run.

Buy in bulk. It may be easier to buy bags of soil or gravel from the hardware store, but buying in bulk from your local landscape store can help you save a bundle.

Know what you need. Buying too much creates waste, buying too little adds to your bottom line with time and expense for extra supplies. Know what you need before you get started so that your garden can be a work of art – within your budget!



Fast Fix

There are easy ways to save energy in your home. Replacing your air filters monthly reduces system strain and saves energy dollars. Using a low-flow showerhead can cut water use by 60% a month. Energy efficient light fixtures can save up to \$45 a year.

Could I Borrow Several of Your Friends?

Now what kind of question is that? The truth of the matter is that we enjoy providing superior service and value to our customers (that's you!). And we'd like to offer the same expertise to your friends and family.

So, pass our name along to the people you care about

– we care about their comfort as much as you do. And to say thanks, we'll gladly take \$20 off your next service for each referral you send our way. Just call **H & S Plumbing, Inc.** today at **937-836-8725** and let us know you're sending us another friendly face.

When You Snooze, You Lose . . . Perhaps Literally

There's almost nothing that is more satisfying than a full night's sleep. Your body is able to recharge, your mind clears, and the problems of the day drift off to dreamland. But if you or your partner snore, you could be losing more z's than you're catching.

Just What Causes Snoring?

While allergies and being overweight can contribute to snoring, there are a few lesser-known causes:

- Anything that reduces the size of your airway, including smoking, a chin that is too small, or muscle relaxants can contribute to snoring.
- Aging causes tissue at the back of the throat to sag which can lead to snoring.
- Sleep apnea, a disease that causes sleepers to repeatedly stop breathing can cause the sleeper to snore.

What Can You Do About It?

- Nasal strips. These strips open nasal passages making it easier to breathe while you sleep.
- Firm mattresses help keep your neck in the proper position while you sleep, keeping the airway open.
- Air purifiers can alleviate allergies so that less mucus blocks the airway.
- Cut the fluff. More pillows can actually make snoring worse, so stick to one pillow if you can.

Even if the above remedies help, snorers should always consult their physician to determine if there's a more serious underlying cause. You and your partner will appreciate the better sleep you'll both get at your nightly snooze fest!



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