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937-836-8725
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www.hsplumbing.net



MY WORD

BY RANDALL SHOUP & ROBBY SHOUP



Hello
Friends,

Fall is a busy time of year. Whether you're juggling school schedules and sports events or staying focused on work and community activities, the last thing you want is an inconvenient problem with your plumbing system. Yet, if that happens, the first thing you should do is call us. We'll get someone out there right away to assess and repair your plumbing problem.

It's also a good idea to call us before trouble occurs. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. That's why early detection of

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— IT'S ABOUT TIME! —

How to Keep the Drains Flowing

Gatherings with family and friends this season don't just keep you busy. They also add lots of activity for your plumbing system. Whether that means extra baths and flushes or lots more water down the sink drains, a little preventive maintenance will help to keep things flowing smoothly and efficiently.

If you're impatiently waiting for the sink to empty, tend to the slow drain before it becomes a big clog. There are some easy methods that don't involve toxic drain cleaning solutions that could harm your pipes.

For example, use a plastic drain-clearing tool (looks like a long stick) to pull out accessible debris. Then pour a mixture of ½ cup baking soda and ½ cup white vinegar down the drain. Cover and wait 30

minutes as foam starts to work. Plunge the clog (filling the sink with water will help the plunger do its job), then flush the drain with hot water. Call us if you need help.

For your sinks, it's a good idea from time to time to pull out the stopper and scrub it with a brush, then soak in vinegar and rinse clean. This will help remove gunk that's starting to build up. Fair warning: Even though this action doesn't require a lot of technical skills, it's still dirtier work than some homeowners want to stomach.



Also important, paying special attention to bathroom sinks and showers – removing hair, residue and debris that's hovering near the drain, for instance – will help avoid clogs too. With gravity in action, anything that's collecting nearby is at risk of flowing down.

Call us if you have any clogs causing you trouble.



Easy Steps to Improve Home Security

— HOT NEWS NOW —

Don't Do This With Your Garbage Disposal

With normal wear and tear, a garbage disposal may last 10 to 15 years, but there are always factors at play that can lengthen or shorten the lifespan. These convenient kitchen appliances should only be used as intended, and generally, that means disposing of biodegradable food scraps. Yet, perhaps it's more helpful to get an understanding of how a garbage disposal shouldn't be used:

- Avoid placing hard objects in the disposal. This includes animal bones, popcorn kernels, fruit pits or other items that will quickly dull the blades.
- Don't dispose too much at a time. Discard or compost most of the food items first or chop large pieces into smaller ones.
- Keep food packaging and paper out of the disposal. Plastic wrap can cause clogs.
- Fibrous or stringy items like broccoli, celery, corn husks and potato skins can get entangled in the blades.
- Coffee grounds can easily get stuck in the trap.

- Starchy foods like rice can swell and cause clogs.
- Never pour cooking grease or oil down the garbage disposal. As it cools, it solidifies and clogs the drain.
- Only use cold water when running the disposal. Hot water may melt fat in the food waste that will later solidify.

Time to replace your garbage disposal? Give us a call.

Is Your Water Heater Ready for Retirement?

After 10-12 years of daily service, your water heater may be ready to slow down – or even call it quits.

Call **H & S Plumbing, Inc.** at **937-836-8725** and keep the hot water flowing. Mention this coupon and save 10% off the switch. But hurry, offer expires **November 30, 2018**.

Home security systems and outdoor lighting are certainly important measures for securing your property. There are also other steps you can take:

- If you're planting shrubbery this fall, have you considered bushes with thorns? With thorny bushes beneath windows, any would-be intruder will encounter a painful deterrent trying to gain access. Also, keep your shrubs trimmed so that you



— TAKE THAT! (AND THIS TOO!) —

The Cost of Clutter

Clutter isn't cheap. If you've got boxes and bags of stuff in your home that you don't use, it's like paying for storage with that percentage of your mortgage bill. That's one

reason to take a second look at the drawers, closets and shelves filled to the brim. Another reason is that the presence of clutter can produce stress. Also, if you're surrounded by clutter, you may feel a sense of guilt that you should be cleaning and organizing instead of relaxing.

Easy Homemade Bread



There's nothing quite like the enticing aroma of freshly baked bread in the fall! The good news is that you don't have to be a Michelin-starred chef to make homemade bread. Start by dissolving a ½ cup of white sugar in 2 cups of warm water in a large bowl. Stir in 1½ tablespoons of active dry yeast.

Give it about 5 minutes for the yeast to become a creamy foam on the surface. Mix in 1½ teaspoons of salt and a ¼ cup of

vegetable oil. Next, add in 5-6 cups of all-purpose flour, one cup at a time. Knead the dough for 7 minutes, place in a greased bowl and turn to coat. Cover and let it rise for an hour. Punch down the dough, then knead for a minute on a floured board.

Divide into two greased 9x5 loaf pans. Wait another half hour until the dough rises an inch above the pans, then bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes. Cool before serving.

won't provide a hiding place for burglars.

- Don't keep your valuables in the master bedroom. Experts say (and logic agrees) that's the first place a burglar would look for your diamonds and dollars. Try an alternative location – such as a laundry room or guest bedroom – for your cash stash, credit cards or favorite jewels.
- Safes are a good idea, however, they're also obvious if easily found. Don't store valuables in a safe that isn't bolted down or high quality. But you could use that item as a "decoy." Let thieves think that's where the treasure is, and they'll grab it and run off with stuff you can risk losing or perhaps just junk.
- One of the easiest things for a thief to grab is a package at your front door. Consider installing a web-based security camera to monitor activity. Also, keep up with alerts from your delivery company so you'll know what to expect when.

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**.



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 promptly and put to the head of the line.
- 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."



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

MY WORD

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plumbing issues is so important. We'd be happy to conduct a seasonal plumbing inspection to alert you to any problems that we see. This easy service could save you from serious future trouble.

Please let us know when you need our help. Best wishes for a great season.

Sincerely,

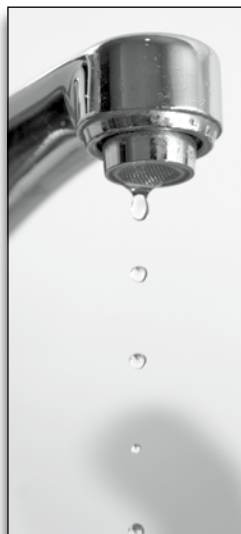
Randall Shoup & Robby Shoup

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P.S. You'll find some helpful tips and ideas for your household in this newsletter, so please take a look. Take note of the discounts too. If you can't use them, just pass them on to a friend.

FAST FIX

Honey for pain relief? Honey isn't just delicious, it's useful for first aid. If you get a minor burn from touching a hot pan, a dab of honey can help. It has natural antifungal, anti-inflammatory and antibacterial qualities. Run cold water over the affected area, let it dry, then apply honey on the spot. This remedy won't help more serious burns but provides quick relief for a minor one.



Fix The Drip

That drip, drip, drip coming from your faucet is not just an annoying sound. It's also a costly drain on your water usage.

According to the EPA, a showerhead leaking at 10 drips per minute wastes more than 500 gallons a year. That's enough to run your dishwasher 60 times! And the numbers keep adding up. A leaky faucet dripping at a rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's enough water for more than 80 showers!

Call **H & S Plumbing, Inc.** at **937-836-8725** by **November 30, 2018** to fix the drips from your fixtures, and we'll give you 10% off the repair.