

# Warm Thoughts and Cool Ideas

Tri-City Refrigeration, Inc • Wis. Rapids/Marshfield • (715) 423-5840 / 387-4000 • Summer 2011 • Issue 46

## Tri-City Joins the SCRIP program at Assumption Catholic Schools and Marshfield Columbus Catholic Schools

You may be asking, what is **SCRIP**? SCRIP is a fundraiser for the schools. When vendors join the program, they donate part of the sale of their products/services. Tri-City recently joined and is offering a **2% donation to the Assumption Catholic School (ACS) SCRIP program and Marshfield Columbus Catholic School (MCCS) Gift Card program as an independent merchant.**

Here are the steps to use **SCRIP**, but before you call, you'll need to know the purchase amount, so this intended for planned purchases (your VIC Club/maintenance club, a new furnace or A/C or duct cleaning).

### 1. Assumption participants:

Contact their SCRIP office at 445 Chestnut St, Wis. Rapids, WI 54494 by calling **715-422-0909** or emailing:

[mhaas@assumptioncatholicschools.org](mailto:mhaas@assumptioncatholicschools.org)

### 2. Columbus participants:

Contact their Gift Card Program at 710 S Columbus Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449, by calling **715-387-1177** ext 219, or emailing: [giftcard@columbusdons.org](mailto:giftcard@columbusdons.org)

**You'll issue payment for the full price to SCRIP**, and in turn the SCRIP program issues us payment for your purchase, less 2%. ACS or MCCS retains 2% as their fundraiser.

### It's that simple!

*Here's how it would work:*

So if you want to pay for your annual VIC Club membership—which is \$204.00 for your gas heating and cooling system:

\$204.00 you pay to SCRIP  
\$ 4.08 ACS or MCCS retains  
\$199.92 SCRIP pays Tri-City

### More SCRIP Info!

There are many other vendors that have signed on as well. For a full list of vendors, visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com). From dining to grocery, and convenience stores/gas stations to home improvement there's something for everyone! To order online, you must register—contact your SCRIP/Gift Card program for details (contact information above).

Most can be ordered online with the click of a button, and picked up at the **SCRIP office from which you ordered.**



Ever wonder or wish you knew if the appliances in your home were operating safely or efficiently?

Ever wish you knew easy ways to make your home more energy efficient without spending thousands of dollars?

A new service we're offering will help you do just that. We'll perform a **Safety Inspection of your home's gas appliances** (furnace, range, water heater, and fireplace)! PLUS, we'll perform a brief **home energy audit** to help you identify areas of your home that energy may escape, taking with it your hard earned money in the form of higher energy bills. It could be as simple as caulking or more involved as changing appliances, windows or adding insulation in the attic. It's an inexpensive way to save money.

**Cost for this service is \$69 (includes sales tax).**

**But, for members of our Very Important Customer (VIC) Club, it's FREE!**

So call today to schedule your Free inspection!!  
715-423-5840 or 715-387-4000.

*Not a member of our VIC Club?* Hop over to **Page 3** of this newsletter for more information on the other great benefits of our VIC Club, and then use the insert in this newsletter to sign up. Simply send it in with your payment information, and you're a member! Then you can take advantage of the **FREE Safety Inspection!**



## MEET

## Larry Warren

Larry has been in heating, cooling and refrigeration industry for over 35years! He's your contact when you need heating, cooling and refrigeration equipment for your business in our entire service area or heating and cooling equipment for your home in the Marshfield area.

Larry and his wife, Sally, live in Marshfield. They are empty-nesters with 3 adult children and 4 grandchildren. They enjoy camping, fishing and boating.



# Rooftop Maintenance Checklist

Just because you don't have a rooftop on your house (wouldn't that be a sight ☺), doesn't mean you shouldn't read this article. Chances are, your employer has this type of equipment heating and cooling their building. Plus, lots of the concepts apply also to residential equipment—commercial equipment is just bigger and designed a little differently.

If your building has a rooftop unit that heats and cools your building, there are several things we check, inspect and test. Why? Mechanical failure of commercial HVAC systems can result in costly repairs, downtime and loss of production, and an unhappy workforce. Sometimes these things can be prevented with routine maintenance. But more often than not, the old saying holds true that **an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.**

**So when we call to remind you it's time to do the planned service on your unit(s) here's what we do.**

We inspect:

1. **the air filters.** Dirty air filters block airflow and dramatically reduce a system's efficiency. **Think of your heating and cooling system as your lungs**—this applies to residential applications as well—when you're in a dirty environment, whether you're doing drywall work or sanding wood or whatever it may be, do you wear a dust mask to prevent breathing in dust particles? Neither does your HVAC system. **Dirty air filters contribute to premature system failure** because it's making your system work harder to get the air flow it needs. Inspect your air filters regularly, at least every 3 months—more if necessary based on building use.
2. **the blower housing and motor.** If your air filters are dirty, there's a chance the blower housing and motor could be dirty too. Dirty blower wheels decrease the amount of air it can move, and can become unbalanced, damaged and add stress to the motor.
3. **belts, pulleys, bearings and lubricate motors and bearings as needed.** Loose belts can cause slipping and result in intermittent heating and cooling. Cracked or fraying belts should be replaced because failure is imminent and could cause more problems. Bearings that aren't lubricated regularly may overheat and seize, eventually fall apart and possibly destroy the blower wheel, shaft and housing.
4. **the indoor and outdoor coils, and clean if necessary.** If the fins on the outdoor unit are dirty, the ability of these coils to transfer heat is diminished and the airflow through the condenser coil will be reduced. Sometimes you can't even see the dirt lodged in between the fins. A unit may even stop operating due to the reduced heat transfer capability.
5. **the drain pan and condensate drain lines.** Drain lines can get clogged with slime from the evaporator coil, and could potentially leak water and shut down the unit.
6. **the economizer**, if equipped. Checking the ventilation settings, sensors, actuator and dampers ensures the economizer is working properly. Because it gives you **free cooling in spring and fall** without making the air conditioner run, it saves you money! So making sure that's working properly makes sense, not only economic sense but for comfort too.
7. **the electrical wiring, connections, contactor and relay points.** A loose electrical connection can cause big problems and be a safety issue. Checking contactors for burning and pitting is important, because every time the air conditioner starts, it creates an arc in the contactor. Every arc creates a pit in the contacts; a badly pitted and burnt contactor will fail eventually and the unit won't start.
8. **burners, heat exchangers, coupling boxes and inducer assembly.** Verifying the unit is burning fuel properly is an obvious way to make sure the unit is running at peak efficiency.

**Most of the same inspections** (except the economizer) **applies to residential equipment.** Verifying the equipment is running efficiently saves you money over the course of time by cutting down on emergency situations and keeping your monthly energy bills in check. Even though you think the air conditioner is running just fine, that may or may not be the case. Regular, routine maintenance is much easier on the budget than large repair bills that Murphy's Law delivers to you at the least opportune time.

If it's been a few years since your last tune-up for your home's cooling system, it's probably a good idea to have it done this year. A home air conditioner tune-up starts at \$115.00 (includes tax). Call today to reserve an appointment. Better yet, join our Very Important Customer (VIC) Club, save some money and enjoy even more benefits! See next page for full details.

# WHAT'S THE VIC CLUB?

It's our maintenance club, known as our **Very Important Customer (VIC) Club**, that's designed to provide you with peace of mind and savings.

## Key VIC Club benefits:

1. **Annual Precision Tune-up** on your furnace or air conditioner, standard air filter change included.
2. **FREE** diagnostic should you need service during your membership, **\$79 value**.
3. **10% Discount on repairs**, should repairs be needed.
  - If repairs are necessary, we'll warrantee that repair for one (1) year, as long as you're a member.
4. **Priority Service**.
5. **Free Energy Consultation/Safety Inspection**, to help identify other areas of your home that could realize energy savings.

So how much does this membership cost? Well, that's the best part... for a gas furnace or air conditioner, it starts at only \$8.50 per month. For a fuel oil furnace, it starts at \$12.10 per month. You can also add your humidifier or water heater to your membership.

It's a monthly draft from a checking or savings account, or credit card (MC & VISA). Of course you can still pay your membership in full, but we're discovering that more and more clients are excited about the opportunity to pay for it monthly because of the convenience and to budget expenses.

**Ready to join? Simply fill out the insert in this newsletter and return to us!**  
**We'll take care of the rest.**

Would your company like to insert a coupon in our next newsletter? It's an inexpensive way to **reach thousands of central Wisconsin residents and businesses**. Call Andrea at 715-423-5840. The newsletter is sent quarterly.

## **Important Dates to Remember:**

June 19th—Father's Day

June 21st—First Day of Summer!

July 4th—Independence Day, Celebrate our Freedom!

**July 7th—Lunch by the River, co-sponsored by Tri-City Refrigeration. Come join us for Lunch by the River in Wis. Rapids!**

September 5th – Labor Day

September 11th—Patriot Day, 10th anniversary of 9/11

September 23rd—First Day of Fall

**Happy Birthday** to all of our clients celebrating a birthday this summer and **Happy Anniversary** to those celebrating anniversaries! **May you be blessed with another year of health and happiness!**



# RECIPE CORNER

## CLASSIC CARROT CAKE

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 can (8 ounces) unsweetened crushed pineapple
- 2 cups shredded carrots
- 4 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 3/4 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 cup canola oil
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

### FROSTING:

- 2 packages (8 ounces *each*) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar

### DIRECTIONS

Drain pineapple, reserving 2 tablespoons juice (discard remaining juice or save for another use). In a large bowl, beat the carrots, eggs, sugars, oil, pineapple and reserved juice until well blended.

In a small bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; gradually beat into pineapple mixture until blended. Stir in walnuts.

Transfer to a greased 13-in. x 9-in. baking dish. Bake at 350° for 35-40 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.

For frosting: in a large bowl, beat cream cheese and butter until smooth. Beat in vanilla. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Spread over cooled cake. Yield: 12 servings.

[www.tasteofhome.com](http://www.tasteofhome.com)



## Do you have a smartphone?

Scan these QR codes to go directly to the following sites!

Check out our [freshly updated website!](http://www.tricityrefrigeration.com)



Check out our [new blog!](http://www.tricityrefrigeration.blogspot.com)

### Check us out on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Rapids-WI/Tri-City-Refrigeration-Heating-and-Cooling/108196536944>





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*at your*   
**SERVICE**

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## Monthly Raffle Winners

**March: Joan H.**

**April: Jim & Jackie V.**

When we perform work for you, you will be given a link to a website for Carrier Corp. and Nexstar Network to tell them how we're doing. Once we are notified of the completed surveys for the month, we randomly select a winner. We hope it's your lucky day and **thank you** for taking the time to go online! **You can also access these surveys by going to our website: [www.tricityrefrigeration.com](http://www.tricityrefrigeration.com)**

**These surveys are submitted online. Don't have computer access?** We'll provide a paper copy which you can return to us and we'll submit it for you.

## JUST FOR GRINS

Some sayings sure to make you giggle!

The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list.

We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse always gets the cheese.

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, "In an emergency, notify:" I always put, "DOCTOR."

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but always check when you say the paint is wet?

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some darned good ideas!

Hospitality: Making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

Some people hear voices. Some see invisible people. Others have no imagination whatsoever.

