

VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



OWNER'S CORNER

64 Years of Excellence!



Best Residential HVAC Company
Best Plumbing Company

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Did you know...

...VHP can test your water for hardness, pH, iron, TDS ("total dissolved solids" or "particles"), and chlorine. Ask for a FREE water test when you set up a service or maintenance call.

THROUGH MY EYES

It's amazing how popular bottled water is. But that speaks to how health-conscious we are today. People are more concerned than ever about what they put in their bodies. And while I'm right there with them on the importance of drinking water - I'm not a fan of all the waste from plastic bottles. In fact, every day Americans throw away more than 60 million plastic water bottles. Most end up in landfills or incinerators or as litter.

For me, my original concern with drinking water was to avoid becoming dehydrated. I made it a goal to drink a couple of liters a day and I would take a couple of refillable bottles to work.

When I first started, I would just fill the bottles with tap water. That changed

"Wherever you see a 'Vincent's Van Go' you know the job will be a work of art."



Here is Marvin performing a water test for a customer on a recent job. Water quality - especially hardness - affects the function of your plumbing fixtures - and can have negative health impacts.

Continued Page 3

How to Fix a Bad Sewer Line Under a Driveway & One Other Helpful New Plumbing Service

The traditional solution for a broken or cracked sewer line is to dig it up to either repair or replace it. This can cost thousands of dollars and leave you with a mound of dirt in your yard until it settles and packs down.

The problem - and the mess - is compounded if the area needing repair is under a driveway. This has always meant ripping up the driveway to make

the fix. The same thing is true if the sewer is under a garage, a patio, a deck, or even under valuable landscaping.

Thankfully, we have new technology available that can avoid the mess of excavating in certain situations: Pipe Patching. The process is like that of a heart surgeon putting a 'stent' in a damaged artery without cutting the patient open.

Continued Page 2

...Plumbing Service (Continued from Pg. 1)

With Pipe Patching, the repair is performed from inside the sewer pipe accessed from a clean out.

The process uses a sewer camera to locate the problem area. This is typically where the sewer pipe has cracked and allowed tree roots to intrude thereby creating a backup. And while the roots may be able to be cleared, this is usually only a temporary fix as they will soon grow back, and cause even more damage to the sewer line.

The repair itself is fairly straightforward. First, the damaged area needs to be 'prepped' with any roots cleared completely out. Next, a 2-foot fiberglass patch is inserted on an inflatable tool engineered for this purpose into the problem area.

Because the patch material has chemicals that cure the patch, this all must be done quickly before it hardens. The tool is inflated to expand the patch and cause it to conform and adhere to the interior of

the damaged area of pipe. After the patch cures, the tool is removed leaving a patch with a 50-year guarantee in place. Again, no digging needed.

Depending on the extent of the damage to the pipe, digging may still be a better solution, but now you know there is another option where digging is a problem. This is a service that VHP now offers.

Another new service is hydro jetting to clean sludge from inside a clogged sewer line, drain pipe or sump pump discharge line.

Essentially a hydro jetter is a 'souped-up' pressure washer with special nozzles designed to scour clean the inside of drain lines. This is not to deal with roots – we have other equipment for that situation.

Jetting is perfect to clear a plugged sump pump discharge line. Just like a cholesterol filled artery, the mineral sludge grows until it completely closes off the

line. This causes back pressure on the sump pump that can cause it to burn out. If your sump moves a lot of water, you may consider jetting your discharge line on a regular basis.

Another application is for homes with a septic system that had to be pumped out. When a septic tank gets so full that it needs to be pumped, the sludge in the tank will back up toward the house in the sewer line. This sludge can settle and harden, leading to other backups. The sewer line to the septic tank should be cleaned after having the septic tank pumped out.

Jetting will also eliminate the gunk that builds up inside a kitchen drain line that just running a drain snake only punches a hole though. In all these situations, the hydro jetter is inserted in the pipe and scours the inside completely clean. If we can help you with any of these situations, call us.

- Daniel Squires

What Our Clients Are Saying...

"I really appreciate your good service. Your techs are very knowledgeable and able to explain while being patient and very pleasant. Thank you for hiring good people." - M. Collins, Port Huron

Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg. 1)

when my mom gave me a carbon filter. This was like many pitcher-type carbon filters that sit next to the kitchen sink. So, I started only drinking filtered water. And shortly after, I realized that I couldn't go back to drinking it right from the tap. Now I don't like the taste of chlorine in water. I'll come back to this in a moment.

About two years ago we expanded our plumbing offerings to include whole home water treatment products – water softeners, iron filters, carbon filters, UV water purifiers, and reverse osmosis. And because there was so much interest in the topic of water, many of our HVAC techs attended the training sessions with our plumbers – as did I. **I've been a plumber for over 40 years, and I was amazed to learn what I didn't know about water and how to make it better.**

Have you ever changed – or even touched – a rubber flapper in a toilet tank reservoir and came away with an oily black ink-like substance on your fingers? For all the years that I have changed toilet flappers – or rubber faucet washers – I mistakenly thought that the black stuff was from the rubber wearing out. The real culprit is the chemical reaction between the rubber and the chlorine in our water!

Also very eye-opening was the information about chemicals in our water. Have you heard about PFAS? – also known as 'forever chemicals'? If you've ever had a 'no-stick' frying pan that lost its non-stick surface, the coating that came off is a type of PFAS. The

reason it's called a 'forever chemical' is because it doesn't break down in nature. And where did the coating go? Into our water and the environment where eventually we'll ingest it. Only recently has the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began regulating these chemicals that are linked to cancer and infertility.

With an RO system, you have pure water on tap!

Reverse Osmosis is the 'gold standard' in eliminating water contaminants – whether it is PFAS or chlorine. With an RO system, you have pure water on tap!

Reverse osmosis is another product available in our suite of water treatment products. Not only does reverse osmosis provide great tasting, pure drinking water, but you can also plumb it to your refrigerator to get ice made with pure RO water. Plus, with reverse osmosis there is no reason to purchase bottled water. You can get the health benefits of drinking pure water without the environmental damage caused by plastic water bottle waste.

Do you wonder about your water quality? Ask us for a water test. This is free on any service or maintenance call. This is a great opportunity – even if you have city water.

– Daniel Squires

A Heating & Air Conditioning
Amana[®]
LASTS AND LASTS AND LASTS.[®]

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing is proud to install Amana equipment, made in the USA.

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing, Inc.

2650 Oak St.
Port Huron, MI 48060

Daniel Squires, President
David Squires, Vice President

Phone: 810-985-7103
E-mail: sales@vhpinc.com
Website: www.vhpinc.com

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Past issues are available in PDF format online in the Van Go Gallery at:
VHPinc.com/gallery

Wildflowers of North America D to L

W	S	G	V	E	D	F	M	W	J	L	O	F	R	D	G	H	Z	U	N	Diapensia
W	R	O	X	V	L	A	G	V	L	P	I	H	E	T	O	E	I	E	O	FairyBells
Z	E	F	I	O	T	I	K	I	Q	R	Q	S	P	J	L	P	N	B	G	Fireweed
B	X	T	U	L	B	R	H	A	E	I	S	U	P	M	D	A	D	S	A	Fleabane
R	A	K	A	G	H	Y	Z	W	P	O	M	B	I	R	E	T	I	J	R	Foamflower
T	E	M	Z	X	R	B	E	N	A	B	A	E	L	F	N	I	A	C	D	Foxglove
D	Q	W	L	O	H	E	L	R	R	N	G	L	S	N	C	C	N	J	N	Gentian
V	I	X	O	F	D	L	F	U	Q	O	F	B	Y	F	L	A	P	A	E	Goatsbeard
Q	A	A	K	L	E	L	P	V	L	T	X	B	D	S	U	W	I	P	E	GoldenClub
A	L	A	P	B	F	S	T	D	B	Y	O	O	A	L	B	T	P	V	R	Goldenrod
J	U	O	E	E	K	M	E	A	H	L	K	H	L	V	N	Q	E	H	G	Goldthread
S	O	R	B	R	N	N	A	H	A	W	K	W	E	E	D	I	J	K	C	GreenDragon
Q	A	W	A	E	R	S	K	O	Q	W	B	I	G	L	A	U	R	E	L	Harebell
H	U	L	R	O	L	W	I	U	F	D	A	E	R	H	T	D	L	O	G	Hawkweed
L	C	V	D	R	H	I	G	A	G	O	A	T	S	B	E	A	R	D	Q	Hepatica
C	P	V	Z	Y	C	L	A	C	T	R	E	B	O	R	B	R	E	H	E	HerbRobert
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The Most Reasons to be Your Best Choice

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Humor Section



At first, I thought my chiropractor wasn't any good, but now I stand corrected.

My boss asked me why I only get sick on work days. I said it must be my weekend immune system.

Now that's good news!

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.*

- Proverbs 3:5-6 ESV

6 Reasons Why You Shouldn't Neglect Your Heating & Cooling System

Your furnace & AC system are marvelous pieces of engineering, but just like your car, it needs regular maintenance to ensure it is safe, performing well, and will give you years of service. That's why in your equipment owner's manual it urges you to have it professionally serviced every year.

Here are 6 potential consequences when your HVAC equipment is neglected:

- 1) **Loss of system performance.** A system that gets dirty and plugs up won't perform well. A dirty system will have to work harder to keep you comfortable. This results in higher gas and electric bills. And while you may not notice the diminished performance in mild weather, it may not be able to keep you comfortable in extreme heat and extreme cold temperatures. System cleaning is an important part of yearly maintenance.
- 2) **More frequent equipment breakdowns and repair costs.** Continuing from reason one, when a system works harder it puts more stress on the parts. This will cause premature failure of the parts in your system. That's why manufacturers will not cover parts under warranty that fail when the system is not maintained. *Hint: keep service records of yearly maintenance to protect your manufacturer's equipment warranty. We keep this record for VHP Club members.*
- 3) **Years of equipment life can be lost.** The life of the furnace heat exchanger or the AC compressor will be shortened due to the stress and excess heat when your equipment has to work harder. Typically, this results in early equipment replacement.
- 4) **Equipment failures can result in lost work hours and inconvenience.** How much is your time worth to pay for service calls that may have been avoided with regular maintenance?
- 5) **When equipment fails in extreme weather, it can be dangerous, and your home can be put at risk.** Every winter we face dangerous, below zero temperatures. This puts even more stress on equipment that can cause it to fail. This can lead to property damage and compromise your personal safety.
- 6) **Neglected equipment can be unsafe.** Your furnace uses an explosive gas to create a fire to make heat, and as a byproduct creates deadly carbon monoxide gas. What could possibly go wrong? - a lot of things that need to be checked yearly to avoid putting you and your family in danger!



Before this AC condenser was serviced it was putting stress on the system and had decreased performance. The difference system maintenance makes is amazing!

**How Do You End Heating & Cooling System Neglect?
Turn Over for the Easy Solution**



VincentHeatingPlumbing.com (810) 985-7103

...continued from front side.

How To Avoid The Consequences Of Heating & Cooling System Neglect

It's easy. Get a maintenance agreement that provides annual service. This will make certain your system gets the attention that it needs like clockwork. You won't have to worry about anything. You can put taking care of your system on auto-pilot because we keep track of when your equipment needs service, automatically schedule it, and then notify you when a tech can come to perform the annual service.

Our Enhanced Service Plan (ESP) does that and more. In addition to taking care of the scheduling and providing annual maintenance. ESP clients also enjoy these benefits:

- **Priority Service**: ESP clients get preferential treatment - typically **same-day service** - even in sub-zero, freezing temperatures or in extreme heat when demand for service is high.
- **Peace of Mind Protection for Your Family & Home**: Having annual safety and maintenance visits performed by a professional will keep you and your family safe plus head-off potential problems that in time might put your family at risk.
- **Save Money**: Regular maintenance can save energy and thereby lower your utility bills. Also, as a ESP Client you get discounts on repairs and maintenance items (like filters), reduced emergency service charges, and even an annual \$50 cashier's certificate toward an eventual replacement. Your Enhanced Service Plan fees can be less than that of a repair.
- **Longer Equipment Life**: Regular maintenance helps your system work less hard, thereby avoiding the factors that add extra stress and shorten the life of your HVAC equipment.

"Michael from VHP has done the maintenance on my AC for years. I am sure this is why my AC has lasted and is in its 19th year. The VHP Club is a great value." - *Sally Smith, St Clair*

Don't Wait - Start Giving Your HVAC Equipment the Care it Needs Today!

Call and set up an visit to have your HVAC equipment or water heater serviced - only \$199.20 each*.

- OR -

Save Money: Upgrade to VHP's Enhanced Service Plan
and pay only \$149.80 each - a \$50 Savings each!

No Long-Term Contracts - You May Cancel At Any Time!

CALL TO GET STARTED TODAY - ASK FOR THE 'ESP BUNDLE'

CALL (810) 985-7103 Office Hours 7am-6pm Monday-Friday, 8am-2pm Saturday

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*** SEMCO Customers Are Eligible For A \$50 Furnace or Boiler Tune-Up Rebate**