

Five Essential Heating System Maintenance Tips for Businesses

When outside temperatures begin to fall, that's the time to prepare for the heating season ahead. Get the most from your heating system by taking these simple steps.

- Replace or clean your HVAC filters every month during peak cooling or heating season with your own do-it-yourself labor for a high return on investment; they cost about \$2 to \$3 each. Dirty filters can add additional cost to heating your facility, overwork the equipment and result in dirtier indoor air. Consider purchasing electrostatic filters, which are washable, long-lasting and provide cleaner air. Clean or change filters more often if pollution sources are present.
- Set back your heating system when the building is unoccupied. This includes setting the fans to "auto" rather than "on."
- Repair leaks in system components such as pipes, steam traps and couplings.
- Make sure radiators, convectors, air intakes and air diffusers are not obstructed so air can flow freely.
- Plug noticeable building leaks with weather stripping and caulk, another inexpensive do-it-yourself job. Caulking and weather stripping let you manage your ventilation, which is the desirable, deliberately controlled exchange of stuffy inside air for fresher outdoor air.

These simple steps taken now can prepare your equipment for a more efficient heating season ahead. Increased energy efficiency will reduce your energy costs and improve your bottom line.

Visit ResponsibleByNature.com/Business for more energy-saving ideas for your business.

Source: energystar.gov

