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WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

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conditioner comes on, you expect it to produce air that cools your home, not a smell that makes

When your air

cover your nose and run outside.

you want to Things happen, though, so sometimes your central air can cause smells in your home because of leaks, trapped debris, mildew or even a dead animal. If you find that you need to have

What's That Smell Coming From My Central Air?

hesitate to call Choice HVAC for reliable service.

a new AC unit or heat pump installed in Wake Forest NC, don't

Dead Animal No one wants to have a dead animal in their home, but it can happen when a critter gets stuck in a chimney or the ventilation system. It could be a squirrel, a raccoon or even a bird who flew in and couldn't escape. The scent of a dead carcass can smell like rotten eggs. A gas is released when an animal begins to decompose, so when you turn on the air conditioning, that smell is sent throughout your house. You will have to remove the carcass and clean the vents and ducts in order to remove the smell.

Leaks If you smell a skunk and you know that one didn't crawl into your home and die, then it could be a gas leak. Methyl mercaptan is a chemical added to natural gas and propane that smells like the stuff a skunk sprays. Its purpose is to stink up your house so that leaks are detected. If you smell this odor, have a professional come check out your system as soon as you can. A gas leak can be dangerous.

Mildew Your central air conditioning not only cools your home, it controls humidity, so it's normal for moisture to build up in the system or in the ducts. If your home smells like stinky feet, and your teenage son swears it isn't him, it could be a mildew and mold build up. You'll want to check the drip pan to make sure it doesn't have stagnant water sitting in it. A blocked pipe can cause water to sit because it's not draining properly. Try unclogging the pipe and cleaning it along with the drip pan. If there appears to be mold on the coils, you may want to clean those as well.

If you have problems with mildew consistently, your air conditioning system may be too big for your home. A system that brings in cool air quickly, but doesn't have enough places for it to go can cause moisture in your home that causes mold and mildew.

Other Smells

The smell of exhaust could be due to a leak from one of the components. Have a professional check it out as soon as you can. The same applies if your home smells like someone shot off a few rounds inside. That gun powder smell could be because there's a short in the electrical board or the fan motor could have burn out.

Don't ignore smells coming from your central air system. They are a sign of a problem that can probably be fixed easily. If you wait too long, they could cause more damage and possibly be harmful to your family.

Need An Affordable AC or Heat Pump installed in Wake Forest NC?

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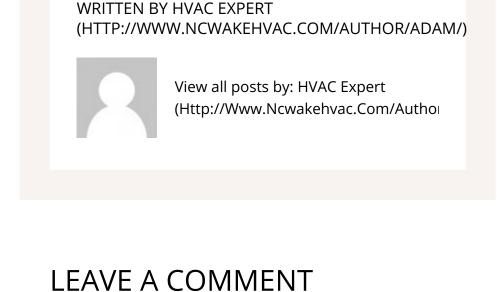
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