



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

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Clammy Homes

There are some new solutions to old problems in the air conditioning business. Something our area experiences in summer is high humidity. Since evaporation is the human body's way of lowering surface temperature we all know that high humidity prevents perspiration and leaves us drenched. That is why when you walk into an air conditioned space it feels even cooler than it really is. If the indoor humidity is controlled you get the lower temperature as well as the evaporative cooling. It is the best feeling of the day for someone who works outside. Unfortunately if an air conditioning system was not sized correctly the indoor humidity may be almost as high as the outdoor humidity. The temperature will be lower but it won't evaporate the perspiration from your skin. That causes the 'clammy' feeling. There are not many fixes for that and nobody ever is willing to replace a working system because of that problem. The work around is to set the temperature even lower than you really want it just to remove more humidity. That will show up in the electric bill and still isn't really comfortable. When you get into the nuts and bolts of air conditioning science there are more than a few key factors that affect comfort and just as many ways to alter a system to improve it. Oddly enough, slowing down the air will reduce humidity. Most people think that more air means better cooling but in this case, less is more. The reasoning for this is that the cooling coil inside the fan unit should be at around 40° and if air traveling over it is moving slowly enough, it will reach the dewpoint and humidity will turn into condensation and run off the coil and into the drain. There are a host of problems that can interfere with this process though.

The outdoor unit plays a big part as well. New indoor and outdoor units have the ability to vary their speed to match the amount of cooling the space needs. That drastically improves indoor humidity. Just the difference in the amount of cooling required between noon and midnight is huge. If the system can match what's needed, energy cost is reduced and comfort is improved. This solves the problem of contractors oversizing equipment. If a variable speed system is too large, money was wasted and the system will probably never run at full capacity but it won't feel like a meat locker in the living room.

If high indoor humidity is a problem in your home there other factors that affect it besides the HVAC system and they should be addressed first. But know there are solutions for this problem.

Ken Field is the owner of Slate Belt Energy and Field's Service, Inc. As a certified energy rater and contractor, he is qualified to assess every aspect of energy usage and prescribe solutions to save energy. He can be reached at 610-759-6306 or email Ken@FieldsService.com

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Advance Your Career Skills at NCC

By NCC

BETHLEHEM, PA - NCC is pleased to announce a series of upcoming virtual information sessions designed to help you explore pathways to advance your health career.

First, NCC's Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) training program prepares participants with the skills needed to take the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) Competency Examination for placement on the Pennsylvania Nurse Aide Registry. As a CNA, you can work in a long-term care facility, hospital or other healthcare setting – an excellent way to start your career in healthcare. View a free pre-recorded information session with everything you need to know at: <https://www.northampton.edu/education-and-training/workforce-training/healthcare-training/nurse-aide-cna.html>. To learn more about the program and its requirements, please visit: <https://lifelearn.northampton.edu/modules/shop/index.html?action=section&OfferingID=6745900&SectionID=7210484>. For questions, please email healthcare@northampton.edu or call 610-332-6585.

Another opportunity is NCC's RN/LPN Reactivation & Review Programs Information Session. Whether you are a nurse who is interested in returning to the healthcare workforce or a graduate who needs to review for your NCLEX, attend our free virtual information session on July 16 at 6 p.m. to get all your questions answered. To enroll, please visit www.northampton.edu/nursingce, or call 610-332-6585. Hybrid programs, including RN Reactivation, RN Review, LPN Reactivation and LPN Review, begin August 26. For questions, please email healthcare@northampton.edu or call 610-332-6585.

Lastly, there are opportunities to learn about a career in phlebotomy. Attend a free virtual information session on August 27 at 6 p.m. to learn about the career, program and program requirements. To enroll, please visit www.northampton.edu/HealthcareCourses and scroll to course code "HINFO107". Fall phlebotomy class begins September 17. For questions, please email healthcare@northampton.edu or call 610-332-6585.

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