



**Ken
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Hot Weather Thoughts

When you buy a refrigerator it comes out of the box at ambient temperature. That means it's probably 75° or more inside the cabinet. If you read the directions they will tell you to plug it in and allow 24 hours for the temperature to stabilize. Why would that be? If I plugged it in it's because I have things I want refrigerated NOW, not tomorrow. You can call tech support or the company you bought it from and there is nothing they can do. It gets chalked up to the desire for instant satisfaction and impulsive behavior by anyone who pays for something. We are all guilty of it and some are worse than others.

If your air conditioner failed and it took a few days to get a part, which is sadly more common post-covid, would you expect your house to drop from 89° to 72° immediately? Most people answer yes because they 'expect' instant gratification. The truth is that it is almost exactly like your refrigerator. If you had the windows open and allowed humidity to enter, your newly repaired system will have to squeeze that moisture out before it can lower the temperature.

That is just one of the laws of psychometrics and money can't change it. I don't recommend that anyone have backup units in case of a breakdown but I do recommend that people don't try to run their system right to the day it dies. Plan ahead and segue right in to modern times with a newer system. A good contractor will have parts on hand for newer equipment and hopefully can acquire parts more readily than for the 25 year old clunker you are using now. This is not a sales tactic, it is a reality check. A few of our customers have 2 systems in their home. One in the basement for the first floor and one in the attic for the second floor. If one goes down, the other will keep part of the house comfortable. Homes like that were more expensive to construct but it is extremely rare for those homeowners to have a hot second floor and bedrooms that are too hot to sleep in while the living room is perfectly comfortable. Hot second floor rooms in a home with a single system in the basement are all too common. It is a duct design problem and it seems to never change. Any professional HVAC company would have adjusted their installation practices after the first few homes didn't work. What's worse is the money that could have been used for that second system went into finishing the basement. That guarantees the problem can never be fixed because the ducts are all dry-walled over.

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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Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Christopher Walters

By Rep. Joe Emrick

On Saturday, Christopher Walters was recognized for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout at his Court of Honor ceremony. As part of his Eagle Scout project, Christopher constructed an outdoor reflection garden, which includes a 25-foot flagpole with a 3-inch gold eagle, for Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church in Nazareth. Congratulations, Christopher!