



**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
Services*

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Better Than Florida

The US is made up of many geographic regions, each having their own specific challenges to those of us who try to keep everyone comfortable. Our particular region has a range from almost 100° down to about 0° and some high humidity in the summer. Other regions have higher heat and much less humidity and others have even more humidity than we do. Coastal areas are brutal at times and the salt air that comes in from the ocean will destroy most metals. Air conditioners sitting outside in the weather will need to be replaced not because of mechanical wear but because they are rusted out. We also have a large number of systems installed in attics which many service and install people despise. But living space is important and nobody wants to give up a room to house an air conditioner. 99% of attics are hostile to anything but mice and wasps. It is rare to have even one board to crawl on to get to the attic unit and usually it seems like scrap wood from building the house was thrown up there for that purpose. Rarely is it fastened down and it is always dangerous. One wrong move and you'll need drywall repairs. Whenever I'm up there, after crawling through a tiny hole in someone's bedroom closet ceiling, and balancing on some popsicle stick in the dark, I am glad that I'm not in Florida. They may have the most difficult conditions to work in all summer long and their summer is much longer than ours.

Knowing the weather conditions that we experience annually is very important to be able to calculate how much heat and air conditioning a house needs. Removing humidity is a very energy intensive task and it is time consuming too. It is called latent energy and it makes an air conditioner seem like it's not working when there is a large amount of humidity that needs to be removed. That's the main reason not to open your windows in the evening to let in what seems like cool air. Because humidity comes in with it and the next day you pay to remove that before you cool the house again. I know, my wife doesn't believe that either, but it's the truth.


It's not unusual for a few days each year to exceed the temperatures for which we design systems to work in but a few days of less than perfect comfort is really not that much of an inconvenience as compared to an oversized system which costs thousands of dollars more and is more expensive to operate every month. 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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a WILD IN REVIEW

Rep. Susan Wild Urges Veterans to File for PACT Act Benefits

ALLENTOWN, P.A. – Congresswoman Susan Wild is urging veterans to apply for expanded benefits under the PACT Act ahead of Wednesday, August 9th.

Veterans who submit their "intent to file" for PACT Act benefits by August 9th will be eligible for retroactive benefits for the past year the law has been in effect. For too long, veterans had the burden of proving their illnesses were caused by exposure to toxic chemicals during their service. The PACT Act expands benefits for veterans exposed to toxic chemicals during their military service by adding new presumptive conditions for toxic substances including radiation, Agent Orange, Gulf War toxins, and burn pit exposures.

"Last year, I pushed to pass the PACT Act into law to fulfill our promise to the brave men and women who sacrificed for our country," said Rep. Susan Wild. "Now, I'm working to raise awareness of the upcoming August 9th deadline: the date by which veterans must submit their 'intent to file' to be eligible for a year of backdated benefits. These are benefits veterans earned, are owed, and I'm working to ensure they receive."

There is no deadline to file for future benefits under the PACT Act – but by submitting an intent to file for August 9, 2023, eligible veterans can receive benefits backdated for the past year.

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