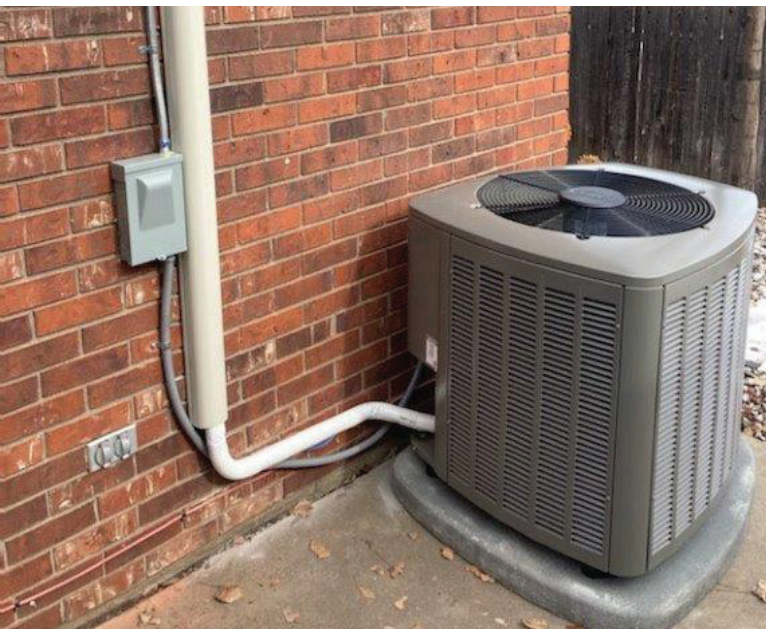


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Maximize Your HVAC Efficiency and Save Money with a Spring Tune-Up

Northern Colorado Air has been raising the standard of comfort for 33 years



COVERPROFILE



This year, with new laws on refrigerants in air conditioning units in effect as of Jan. 1, Northern Colorado Air is partnering with customers to ensure that they have the correct refrigerant for their unit. (Photo: Natalie Dyer / At Home Colorado)

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By Sarah Huber
At Home Colorado

For more than three decades, Northern Colorado Air, Inc. has helped customers stay cool and comfortable no matter the economic market, and the summer of 2025 is no different. “Our customers are aware of the rising tariff situation, and we are already seeing product shortages. My advice is to schedule

your spring tune-up or new installation sooner rather than later,” said General Manager Jeff Richard. The good news is that, as for the past 33 years, Northern Colorado Air offers customers the knowledge and resources to make the best choices to cool their home this summer while also stretching their funds. “It’s our goal to keep your system in top energy performance condition, saving you money now in electricity bills and in long-term replacement costs,” he said. A family-owned business, Northern Colorado Air has a well-earned reputation from Fort Collins to Longmont, Windsor and Loveland. In fact, the majority of Northern Colorado Air’s calls are

from repeat customers who value Northern Colorado Air’s honesty and commitment to excellence, as well as from referrals, Richard said. “Our neighbors know our reputation for quality service at a fair price, and they’ve come to know and trust our employees.” Several Northern Colorado Air professional technicians have been with the company for 20-plus years. Northern Colorado Air is an independent business that is not affiliated with any other HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) company in Colorado. “We continue to build lasting relationships with our residential and commercial customers through organized project management,

affordable service and greater value for your investment,” Richard said. Northern Colorado Air’s specialized team is trained to accurately diagnose and resolve air quality and temperature control issues for existing residential and commercial structures and new construction projects.

Consistent pricing and free estimates
As for saving money, Northern Colorado Air intentionally keeps prices consistent. “We don’t do scare tactics, like ‘buy today or the price goes up tomorrow,’” Richard explained. “We offer the wisdom of a trusted professional.”



Northern Colorado Air does not charge for estimates and encourages potential clients to ask two or three companies for bids. “Call around for options, and feel free to call us back with questions,” he said. “Make sure you evaluate your repair or installation process for details and check references and the Better Business Bureau for reviews.”

Richard is confident that those who do their homework will find, time and again, that Northern Colorado Air is known for superior service and a focus on the customer’s best interest. After all, Richard added, “When you stick with the professionals, you know you are getting a company that has been trusted for 33 years for reliability.”

Spring tune-ups at a reasonable price

For many, that reliability is irreplaceable each spring. “With everybody’s electricity rates going up, a tune-up is the simplest way to extend the life and effectiveness of your system,” Richard said.

To maximize efficiency and productivity, several of the maintenance services performed by Northern Colorado Air technicians during a tune-up include:

- Checking the thermostat calibration and settings
- Tightening electrical connections
- Lubricating all moving parts
- Inspecting and cleaning the condensate drain
- Checking system controls
- Cleaning and adjusting blower components
- Checking the charge and load of the refrigerant in the system
- Cleaning condenser coils

For AC owners, plan ahead to navigate new refrigerant laws

Not only does Northern Colorado Air install and maintain HVAC systems, but they also educate customers on their options before a



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sale and about how a system works once in place. This year, with new laws on refrigerants in air conditioning units in effect as of Jan. 1, Northern Colorado Air is partnering with customers to ensure that they have the correct refrigerant for their unit. As some newly required refrigerants, now highly in demand, are already on backorder, Richard again urged homeowners to check in now with Northern Colorado Air to schedule a tune-up or determine what they need for a cool and comfortable summer.

Preventive maintenance tasks for homeowners

In addition to scheduling bi-annual preventive maintenance services, homeowners can be proactive about their unit’s efficiency with a few preventive maintenance tasks.

First, Richard encouraged homeowners to keep the outside

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of their AC unit clean: “Remove all debris on and around the unit each time you do yard maintenance and trim bushes,” he advised.

Inside, homeowners will want to keep the AC/furnace unit clutter-free. “The more items sitting

around a unit, the more dust that can collect and eventually make its way into the vent system,” he said. Items on a unit may also reduce air circulation and cause the AC to perform inconsistently.

Air filter guidance for best cooling action

One of the easiest and most important things a homeowner can do to maintain their HVAC system may be the most overlooked: changing the air filter. “Your air filter should be changed at least twice a year,” Richard said. “I recommend checking it between services so that filter gets looked at

four times a year.”

Air filters remove dust and pollutants from the air, preventing them from spreading throughout the home. An HVAC system with a clogged or dirty filter must work harder to pull that air through the AC unit, which stresses the system and may increase utility bills.

For people with allergies or health sensitivities, carbon-coated air filters can remove odors, bacteria, pollen and other lung-irritating particles from the air and the usual pollutants. Richard recommends Merv-16 carbon-coated filters: “95 feet of material in a 20x25 filter that can trap dirt and other pollutants from the air. This is going to catch everything.” Unlike other filters, Merv-16 carbon-coated filters are typically changed once a year.

Northern Colorado Air, Inc. prides itself on offering the absolute best heating system repair, air conditioner repair, furnace installation, air conditioner installation and HVAC services. For more information about commercial and residential services, contact Northern Colorado Air, Inc. at 970.223.8873 or visit ncagriff.com.



Northern Colorado Air stocks its warehouse with top-quality HVAC filters, refrigerant and supplies. (Photo: Natalie Dyer / At Home Colorado)