

# Remember that season end air conditioner care

## Home Comfort News



As summer leaves the land it's important to properly bed down your central air conditioner, or window air

conditioners. Rose Titus, spokesperson for ICC, Canada's largest heating and conditioning manufacturer, sends the following information and suggestions.

First of all, says Ms. Titus, resist the temptation to run air conditioners in cool weather to exhaust stale or smoky air. An air conditioner should not run when it's below 13°C (55°F) outside. This can damage the compressor.

With your central system it's important to clean up the outside unit. This involves brushing away grass clippings and deadfall from trees, and washing the unit down with your garden hose. This latter step is especially important, particularly if there are any wandering dogs in your neighbourhood. Dog urine is highly corrosive. You can cover the unit if you

like. It doesn't require any protection from the weather, but if there's a possibility of ice-covered tree branches falling on it, it's wise to take safety measures. If you do cover it, make sure that the cover does not hang right to the ground. It's extremely important that air be allowed to circulate under the cover. Otherwise humidity will condense inside the unit and could drastically shorten its life.

Window units are weatherproof. There's no need to protect them. However there is a need to protect yourself from the drafts they can let in which will increase your fuel bill. It's preferable, if possible, to remove the unit from the window and install the storm window. If that can't be done place a piece of cardboard between the inside cover and the fins. (The cover is easily removable for this purpose.)

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Behold upstairs to a lavish cotted ceiling master suite which has a built-in fireplace and walk-through wardrobe. The ensuite boasts a raised whirlpool spa, twin vanity and private shower, toilet and third basin. The two additional bedrooms share a three piece bathroom with tub. Potential for future expansion is easily accommodated in a 112 square foot bonus room. The convenient proximity of the bonus room to the secondary staircase makes the bonus room ideal for a nanny or in-law suite or media centre. The finished floor area of this design is 2731 square feet.

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