

AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP MAINTENANCE TIPS



NYS Clean Heat
Supported

Like any heating and cooling system, air source heat pumps require routine maintenance to stay functional and efficient and to ensure long term durability.

Change or Clean Your Filters

Heat pumps work best when filters are kept clean. For ductless split systems, vacuum or rinse dust filters inside the indoor units at least monthly or when they become visibly dirty. Homes with pets will need to clean filters more frequently. For ducted systems, filters inside the air handler or at the return air grille should be washed or replaced typically every 90 days, however this depends on filter type, size and thickness. Refer to the manufacturer recommendations for exact replacement and maintenance guidance.



Keep Outdoor Units Free from Debris

Keep the outdoor unit clear of obstructions on top and around the unit throughout the year. When there is a significant snowfall, keep your outdoor unit clear of snow and ice. Any leaves, snow, shrubbery, or other debris around the unit can restrict airflow and impact your heat pump's ability to do its job.



Keep Duct Registers Clean

If you have a ducted system, dust and dirt in air ducts will reduce the efficiency of the system. Clean your supply registers and return air grilles annually to eliminate buildup of dust, dirt, or mold.

Get Your Heat Pump Serviced

To ensure your heat pump continues to operate efficiently, get your heat pump checked and serviced. Consult the manufacturer specs and/or warranty for the recommended intervals (most are every 1-2 years).

Your heat pump service technician should be able to:

- Check the heat pump is properly charged with refrigerant,
- Check for any refrigerant leaks
- Check for any oil leaks at the compressor
- Verify adequate air flow is being achieved
- Clean both the outdoor and indoor coils
- Clean the condensate drain pan and check for any clogging
- Inspect electric terminals
- Seal any areas where there is duct leakage
- Check refrigerant lines are insulated and UV protected
- Confirm the thermostat settings
- Check supplemental heating is only being activated when necessary

Some of these items can be done by the homeowner while others require a qualified service technician. Regular maintenance to your heat pump can extend the life of your heat pump and save you money on operating costs.

