

Leadhub Portfolio

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Blog Articles

Week 1: Common Pests for Pets for Apple Pest Control

Common Pests for Pets

Fleas, ticks and other pests can be harmful to animals due to the potential risk of viral, bacterial or parasitic infections. Some of these diseases and viruses can be fatal or cause life-long complications that can make your animal's life less enjoyable.

Fleas

[Fleas](#) feast on blood and often choose dogs and cats as one of their favorite blood sources. They reproduce rapidly, so it is hard to keep them off once a single flea has latched onto your pet's fur. Fleas can jump hundreds of yards from host to host, so it is quite easy for animals to come in contact with fleas through other animals or the environment.

Ticks

Ticks are similar to fleas in the way that they use animals as a food source for blood, although they are more harmful since they also carry bacteria and diseases. Female ticks are uniquely harmful since they are capable of releasing a toxin that can potentially paralyze your pet.

[Flea and tick](#) control should be taken seriously when an infestation is first detected, since it could lead to more serious health concerns.

Critters like ticks and fleas are obvious irritants, but what are some other pests that can affect your furry friend?

The most common pests aside from fleas and ticks that harm pets include cockroaches, ants and mosquitoes. These pests can live both inside your home where your pet sleeps and relaxes, or outside where they play and run. So whether your pet lives inside or outside, there is truly no escape from these pesky creatures.

Cockroaches

[Cockroaches](#) and other bugs can be harmful to your pet upon ingestion. Additionally, they pose a risk of contaminating your pet's food or water. Not only do they carry different bacteria and diseases that are harmful to humans, but they also carry parasites that can cause stomach worms in animals.

Ants

Most ants bites are harmless, however, [fire ant](#) bites can result in severe consequences that can have lasting effects on your family and pets. Fire ant venom can be deadly to smaller animals and humans with known allergens. Symptoms of fire ant bites include collapsing, fatigue, and anaphylaxis.

Mosquitos

Many may not know that mosquitoes can bite animals just as they bite humans. [Mosquitos](#) are known to transmit various diseases, and they can also be heartworm carriers. In extreme cases, if left untreated, heartworms can result in death.

For more information on pests that are harmful to your furry friend, contact [Apple Pest Control](#), the San Antonio pest control company that pet owners trust.

Week 2: 4 Rules for Storing Summer Clothes for Noah's Ark Development and Does Home Temperature Affect Your Sleep for Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating

4 Rules for Storing Summer Clothes

With fall here and winter approaching, it is finally time to whip out those cozy scarves and sweaters that have been tucked away in your [self storage rental](#) all year. Say goodbye to your favorite tank tops and shorts that you have worn all summer long, but don't assume that you can just toss them in storage containers and call it a day. Whether your [winter storage](#) will go in a separate closet, an attic, or a [storage facility](#), it is important to keep in mind these following rules to ensure the longevity and proper preservation of your clothing.

Discard, Donate or Keep

A good way to start is by sorting through your entire closet. Create piles to indicate what you will be getting rid of or [storing for the winter](#). It's a smart idea to have plastic storage containers, hangers, and trash bags at your disposal to make organizing easier. An easy way to categorize your piles is: discard, donate and keep. One tip to [maximize your storage space](#) is to be strict about what clothes you will keep for the next season. For example, if you have never worn a garment of clothing, really consider whether you will wear it in the future or if it is just taking up space.

Clean and Prepare

These next steps are vital to ensure that your summer clothes maintain their form throughout the winter. Wash or dry clean all of your clothes prior to storage to prevent foul odors, stubborn stains or unwanted bugs. Food stains can attract pests like moths and beetles that will damage your clothing. Additionally, stains can turn into permanent dark spots if left untreated. Smelly clothes can become even more odorous if not cleaned, which will only make the unpacking process even less exciting in the future.

You can take it a step further by also cleaning the storage area that the clothes will be placed in. Sanitizing storage containers, wiping down dressers and dusting the walls will benefit your storage experience by minimizing the presence of dust and mold.

Store and Organize

When storing your clothing in plastic containers or boxes, it is important to avoid folding thin fabrics as this tends to create harsh creases. A good alternative to folding is to roll your shirts and jeans or lay the garments flat in order to avoid hard lines. It is recommended to use wood hangers to further prevent creases, however, one drawback is the substantial amount of space they require. If you have a smaller storage closet, velvet hangers are a great alternative as they are significantly smaller. For your dry cleaned items, it is crucial to remove the plastic bags when

they are placed in storage since these plastic bags trap in heat and moisture which causes discoloration.

Pick a Perfect Storage Place

The last and perhaps most important step to guaranteeing that your clothes remain in perfect condition is to pick a [reliable storage place](#). Not only should you keep your clothing away from humid areas, but places with direct and harsh sunlight should also be avoided. Discoloration, yellowing and mold can all damage your clothing if not stored properly. It is recommended to pick a cool and dry area such as a climate-controlled storage unit to ensure that your clothes will be safe and sound all winter long.

For more information on climate-controlled storage units contact [Noah's Ark Self Storage](#).

Does Your Home Temperature Affect Your Sleep?

No one likes to wake up in the middle of the night drenched in sweat or shivering under the blankets. Your home temperature affects you in more ways than you may know. According to this [study](#), the effects of irregular cold or heat exposure include increased wakefulness and decreased REM sleep. So what exactly does this mean?

How does temperature affect your sleep?

According to a Science Advances [study](#), regulation of your body's temperature is critical for both falling asleep and staying asleep. As the body prepares for sleep, the core tries to cool down by releasing heat through your hands and feet. The body continues to keep cool until moments before awakening. By altering the regulation of your body's temperature, you risk experiencing unrestful sleep.

What is the optimal temperature for sleeping?

According to [Sleep Advisor](#), the ideal temperature for sleeping is between 60-72°F for adults and 60-75°F for infants. A temperature that is too extreme in either direction could result in insomnia and discomfort. Since your body's goal is to cool down at night, it is advised to keep a cool exterior environment so there's no interference with the body temperature regulation. So how can you make sure that our home temperature is properly managed?

Why installing a thermostat will help ensure a good night's rest

Have you ever wondered why upstairs bedrooms feel the hottest? Simply put, hot air rises and cold air sinks. The main solution to this issue is a thermostat install and possibly an HVAC zoning system.

By installing a thermostat, you will be able to program your home to the recommended sleep temperature to ensure a good night's rest. Not only will a thermostat help you efficiently control the temperature in your home, but the zoning system will allow you to control and read the temperature of different rooms in the house instead of one central location. This extra investment will significantly improve cases in which one specific zone in the house is warmer than the other, such as an upstairs bedroom.

Contact [Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating](#) if you would like to know more about the benefits of installing a thermostat in your home.

Week 3: The Top things to Avoid putting in your Garbage disposal for Gotelli Plumbing and Can an Unclean Vent be a Safety Hazard? for Lee's Air and Plumbing

The Top Things To Avoid Putting In Your Garbage Disposal

Thanksgiving is right around the corner which, luckily for you, means that your tummy will soon be filled with plenty of delicious food. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about your garbage disposal- which does not benefit from being jammed with food.

Here are the [top foods to avoid tossing](#) in your disposal this thanksgiving to avoid [garbage disposal repair](#) fees and stress:

Top food no-nos

Bones

The disposal blades will just spin the bones around without breaking them down. If the blades do manage to break the bones down, they will still have a hard time traveling down the drainpipe

Stringy Vegetables

Vegetables such as celery and asparagus tangle around the disposal blades which can damage them

Coffee Grounds

Grounds may appear to slide down the sink easily, but tossing them in the disposal results in a mushy mess that builds up in your drain

Eggshells

The shell's membrane lining can stick to the sides of the disposal and wrap around the blades

Fruit Pits

Fruit seeds are too hard to break down which can damage the blades

Grease

Grease and oil can clog your pipes, especially when hot water is poured in since it solidifies the fat

Pasta

Whether cooked or not, pasta expands with water. Tossing pasta in the disposal will fill the disposal trap due to swelling

Potato Peels

Starchy veggies cause a soggy mess in your disposal which leads to a build-up

How to increase your garbage disposal's lifespan

According to an [article from The Washington Post](#), there are a few common mistakes people make that decrease the lifespan of garbage disposals. Things like not cleaning it correctly or using hot water while grinding waste can be very harmful to your garbage disposal. The author recommends the following practices in order to avoid issues in the future:

- Use cold water instead of hot water
- Clean the disposal correctly: do not use bleach or harsh drain cleaners
- Use the correct operating sequence: rinse, grind then rinse again
- Only toss in food items
- Do not pour grease or fat into the disposal which can solidify in the pipes

What to do when your garbage disposal breaks down

If you find that your garbage disposal is clogging frequently, releasing unusual odors or making strange noises, it might be time for a [garbage disposal replacement](#).

Contact [Gotelli Plumbing](#) if you need garbage disposal services or if you need a [garbage disposal installation](#).

Can an Unclean Dryer Vent be a Safety Hazard?

Lint buildup can become a serious fire hazard if left untreated. Areas that are most prone to lint buildup include the lint trap housing, the interior duct and the dryer vent. According to the [U.S. Fire Administration](#), 2,900 home dryer fires are reported each year, with 34% of those fires caused by the failure to do a proper [dryer vent cleaning](#).

What is a dryer vent?

A dryer vent is a firm or flexible metal tube that connects your dryer to the vent hood that is located outside of your home. The purpose of the vent is to release the heat and moisture from your dryer outside.

Why clean your dryer vent?

Your dryer vent needs to be cleaned regularly since lint build-up can cause a fire due to the excessive heat that becomes trapped inside your dryer. Not only can a dirty dryer vent cause a fire, but the performance of the dryer begins to decline without regular maintenance services. Additionally, the buildup of moisture in the vent can lead to mold, which is dangerous for an entirely different set of reasons.

How often should you have it cleaned?

[Lee's Air and Plumbing](#) advises you to clean your dryer vent a minimum of once a year depending on the dryer usage. Furthermore, if you have a large household it is recommended to do it more than once annually.

Signs that your dryer vent needs to be cleaned

- Clothes have a foul odor after each cycle
- The laundry room is excessively hot
- There is a large amount of lint buildup in the lint trap during each cycle
- Clothes are abnormally hot to the touch
- The dryer takes an unusually long time to dry clothes

How can you prevent a fire?

According to a blog post from the [Building Performance Institute](#), here are the best ways to prevent a dryer fire in your home:

- Clean the dryer lint filter before and after each load of laundry
- Make sure that your dryer is installed by a knowledgeable professional
- Clean the filter with a nylon brush at least twice a year or more often if it appears clogged
- Clean the vent pipe every three months
- Ensure the outdoor vent cover opens when the dryer is on

Contact [Lee's Air and Plumbing](#) for the safest and most reliable dryer vent cleaning in Fresno.

Week 4: Is Your AC System Ready for Fall? for Air Clinic and Who is Responsible For Electric Meter Repairs? for Arnold Electric Services

Is Your AC System Ready for Fall?

With cooler days right down the road, preventative AC maintenance is essential for a stress-free comfortable season. Did you know that about [80% of all AC repairs can be prevented](#) with routine maintenance services? Here are some benefits of routine maintenance services and why you shouldn't neglect your air conditioner.

How Often Should You Schedule a Tune-Up?

In Texas, most AC systems need a tune-up twice a year. A [tune-up](#) includes checking things like the compressor, cleaning the evaporator drain and inspecting the combustion chamber. Ignoring your air conditioning system could lead to harmful situations in the future, the most severe of which can include a house fire.

What Are the Benefits of AC Services?

Regular maintenance services will greatly increase the lifespan and efficiency of your system and provide you benefits like:

Saving Money

According to [IAQA](#), regularly maintaining your AC can reduce future breakdowns by as much as 95%. In the long run, it is worth paying for a maintenance service if it will save you hundreds or even thousands of dollars in the future. By further increasing your AC's lifespan, you save money by extending the amount of time before you need a new system. Additionally, an AC system that is in good condition will also reduce your monthly electricity bill.

Improving Your Air Quality

For people with severe allergies or respiratory issues- such as asthma- poor air quality can have detrimental effects on their health. Common indoor allergens include mold, dust mites and pollen. Maintenance guarantees that the air that is filtered through your vents is as clean as possible. Whether you are replacing your dirty filter or cleaning your air ducts, the indoor air quality in your home is important for the safety of you and your family.

Improving Your AC's Performance

When your AC system is constantly being updated and maintained, it performs at its optimal capacity. By doing things such as calibrating the thermostat and cleaning the condenser coils, you are ensuring that your AC runs without failures or difficulties.

If you are searching for an AC company San Antonio residents trust, and an AC company DFW residents rely on, you're in luck. Air Clinic has the expertise and knowledge to deliver the best service possible at an affordable cost. Contact [Air Clinic](#) for more information on their reliable maintenance services.

Who Is Responsible For Electric Meter Repairs?

According to the [city of Chicago](#), [Commonwealth Edison](#) (ComEd) is one of the main energy companies permitted to deliver electricity supply to customers in Illinois. ComEd is also the company responsible for excavating the ground and installing electric meters for your property. However, when it comes to services like electrical repair, ComEd is not always entirely responsible.

Electrical Meter Repair

Whether you have a smart meter or a standard meter, there are different parts of the equipment that [you as a customer are responsible for](#) if you need an electrical meter repair.

ComEd is only responsible for service damage that involves the electrical service wire and the meter itself. If ComEd is responsible for a repair, they will reseed or resod the area back to its original state.

The customer is responsible for damage to the attachment between the ComEd equipment and the customer's property. They are also responsible for the weather head and wire drip look which is the entry point for the wires that go to the meter box. The riser/raceway (the enclosure that physically protects the wires that go into the meter box) is also the customer's responsibility. Lastly, the meter enclosure is also the customer's responsibility if it becomes damaged.

If the customer causes any damage to underground services, they are required to pay fees related to cable repairs, reseeding and additional landscape damages (fences, patio, etc.).

Type Of Services

ComEd provides several services, since groundwork usually results in some damage to your property. Some typical ground repair services include:

- Digging in the repair or replacement of underground cables
- Power pole replacement or repair
- Damage caused by construction vehicle tires or other equipment

When Can I Schedule a Service?

Due to Chicago's cold weather, the seasons determine when ground repair work is possible. Typically, our [work schedule](#) ranges from April through October which is when the ground is soft enough to excavate, replant and reseed. Sometimes if the winter season is severe enough, services are postponed until the spring thaw.

Contact [Arnold Electric Services](#) if you need a reliable Chicago electrician to perform an [electric meter installment today](#).

Week 5: How Do I Know If My Compressor is Bad? for Express Air and Can You Replace a Roof in the Winter? for Desin Roofing

How Do I know If My Compressor Is Bad?

The AC compressor in your air conditioning system can be compared to the heart of the human body. Without it, it is impossible to blow cool air inside your home just as it would be impossible for your body to pump blood without a heart. It is extremely vital to keep your compressor in good shape to make sure that your AC system runs properly. AC compressors are not only crucial to a well-functioning system but are also one of the highest-priced AC repair services. Here are the biggest signs that your compressor is near the end of its life, and how to prevent it from happening.

It no longer blows cool air

The main job of the compressor is to pump refrigerant throughout your AC system to make your home cooler. Much like your car needs coolant to run properly, your AC can't blow cold air without refrigerant. The refrigerant's role is to absorb the heat from the inside of your home, and the compressor's role is to help transfer this heat outside.

If you notice that warm air is coming out from your vents, it could be a serious issue with the compressor. Your AC system should not be working overtime to cool down your home. The warm air is likely caused by a refrigerant leak or a problem with the compressor.

High electric bills

If you notice an unusual increase in your electric bill, it could be your compressor that is causing this issue. When your compressor is not working properly, your AC system is working twice as hard to cool down your home. Since your compressor is constantly trying to cool the inside of your home, your AC is always on. When your AC is constantly on it doesn't run as efficiently- or at a lower cost. Instead, it is using extremely high energy to be able to keep up with your desired indoor temperature.

It won't turn on and it makes strange noises

If you hear a clicking or ticking noise from your outside unit, your compressor may be malfunctioning. A properly functioning compressor should never make a rattling or clicking noise. It is also unusual for an outdoor system to shake before it starts up, so watch out for this warning sign too. If you notice that the compressor is shut down completely and isn't working at all, that is when you should be alarmed and call an [AC technician](#).

How can you prevent your compressor from failing?

The best thing that you can do to prevent a compressor failure is to never ignore the warning signs. If you notice that your compressor is struggling to cool your home, call an HVAC professional. Strange noises or rattling, warm air coming out from the vents and a high electric bill are all red flags of a bad compressor.

If you catch these warnings early enough, you can avoid the hundreds or even thousands of dollars that it takes to repair your compressor. With regular AC maintenance services and tune-ups, it is likely that you will never run into those issues.

Contact [Express Air](#) for the best AC services Pensacola has to offer.

Can you replace a roof in the winter?

Whether you just bought a home and need a roof installation or your neighborhood just experienced [bad weather](#) and you need a roof repair, it is important to know when the best time will be to call a roofing company. Although it is possible to replace a roof in the winter, there are some things that you should know before doing so.

Best Roof Replacement Conditions

The ideal temperature for roof installation is between 40-85°F. Luckily for Floridians, extremely low temperatures are not an issue. It is, however, an issue to replace a roof during rainy seasons. For this reason alone, it is recommended to wait until it is dry for a successful [roof replacement](#).

Summer vs. Winter

Roofing companies are usually the busiest during the summer because most roofing manufacturers produce shingles that require thermal sealing which can sometimes take weeks to seal properly, even with direct sunlight. Although it seems like replacing a roof during the summer is the best route, many companies increase their prices during this time which can be bad for your wallet. One thing to note about summer roof installations is that companies can sometimes be fully booked for the season since that is their busiest time of year, so it is best to schedule your roof installation and repairs early.

Replacing a roof in the winter means that there will be plenty of roof companies to choose from, and at a cheaper price. However, it is still an issue that many shingles rely on natural sunlight in order to seal properly. If you do decide to replace your roof during the winter, it is important to make sure that the roofing company you choose seals the shingles with caulk to make up for the lack of natural sealant. Roofing companies should also watch out for brittle shingles since they are prone to break more easily in colder weather.

Planning is vital

Some roofing companies allow you to book their services months prior, even with their discounted winter prices. So even if you decide that replacing your roof in the winter is not the best idea, you can still take advantage of the cheaper prices during the winter to secure a

company to install your roof during the spring or early summer. Above all, it is extremely important to plan your roof replacement early to ensure that your roof installation is done as professionally as possible.

For more information about roof replacements and repairs contact [Desin Roofing](#), the roofing company that homeowners trust.

Week 6: 5 Tips to Age-Proof your Bathroom for Legacy Bath and Kitchen and Can You Be Allergic to Pests? for Dustin Pest Control

5 Tips to Age-Proof Your Bathroom

Most homeowners purchase a home with the plan to settle in that space for the rest of their lives. With that being said, all homeowners should plan their home renovations around the idea that their home should be friendly to all ages and disabilities. Bedrooms, bathrooms and living spaces are all zones that should be kept up to date with comfort and security in mind.

[Accessibility](#) is just as important as the size and looks of a bathroom. So if you are planning a [bathroom makeover or a bathroom renovation](#) soon, here are the best tips to consider when age-proofing your bathroom:

1. Add a Shower Bench

Shower benches provide a comfortable and secure space to sit in while you shower. They reduce the standing time in the shower which makes showering a safe experience for people with disabilities and injuries, and the elderly. Standing in the shower increases the risk of slipping and falling, which can cause severe injuries. If you have the space for it, a built-in bench is the best option. If you have minimal shower space, there are some free-standing shower benches available that can maximize your shower space while still providing a safer showering experience.

2. Add a Handheld Shower Head

Handheld showerheads, when paired with a shower bench, provide a smooth shower experience for those who must sit while they shower. Handheld showerheads suit people of any height or age group because they are extremely adjustable.

3. Add Grab Bars

Grab bars can be installed both inside of the shower and around the perimeter of the bathroom to guarantee that you are able to securely move around the bathroom. Accidents are more likely to occur when you are exiting or entering the shower, so grab bars are a great way to provide additional safety in this area.

4. Consider a Comfort-Height Toilet

Low toilets strain your back and knees which can become a problem as you get older. Most toilets are less than 16 inches tall, which is not recommended for people with disabilities or the elderly. Comfort toilets are 17 inches or taller, which can help prevent injuries and strains in the future.

5. Buy Textured Flooring

Although slick tile is chic and nice to look at, its slippery nature increases the risk of falling and injuring yourself. Textured flooring and grouts provide more support and grip in bathrooms, so high slip resistance is an important factor to keep in mind in any bathroom. Most manufacturers have a flooring material's slip resistance details on their website, so consider checking that out before you make your flooring purchase.

Contact [Legacy Bath and Kitchen](#) if you have any questions or concerns about your [bathroom renovations](#).

Can You Be Allergic to Pests?

Not only are pests disturbing to look at, but they can also trigger various allergies that if left untreated can lead to irritating outcomes- and worst-case scenario, life-threatening consequences. Pest allergies are a common problem, in fact, [80% of homes in America suffered from pest problems in just one year alone](#). Below are the most common pests that infest homes and the allergic reactions that they induce.

General Signs of Allergic Reactions

In most minor cases allergy symptoms are a nuisance, but harmless. However, there are cases in which pest allergies can become a real threat. A [severe allergic reaction called anaphylaxis](#) requires immediate medical attention and can be life-threatening if left untreated. Anaphylaxis can affect multiple organs such as the lungs, heart, stomach, and skin. Granted, anaphylaxis is the most severe consequence of an allergic reaction and most pests induce minor symptoms similar to a common cold.

The first signs of a pest allergic reaction are:

- Itchy skin rashes
- Swelling of tongue, lips or throat
- Shortness of breath or asthma
- Stomach aches, vomiting and diarrhea

So what are the most common household pests that trigger these allergens?

Cockroaches

Cockroaches are one of the most common pests that cause allergic reactions. The reason why cockroaches are so common is because they can survive in various environments with different temperatures. Cockroaches not only carry harmful bacteria, but they are also known to carry numerous diseases. They spread disease and bacteria through traces of their bodily waste such as their: feces, saliva and shedded skin.

Common allergies from cockroaches include:

- Skin rashes
- Coughing and congestion
- Ear infections
- Itchy and watery eyes

The most dangerous reaction to cockroaches is asthma attacks. Cockroach dust is known to cause asthmatic reactions such as anxiety, tightness in the chest and wheezing. The best way to get rid of a cockroach infestation is by [extermination and removal](#).

Rodents

The most common rodents that trigger allergies include rats, mice and guinea pigs. Places with a high concentration of rodents include cities and urban areas, and people who live in these areas are at a high risk of rodent allergies. Allergies can be triggered by contact with the rodent's feces, urine, saliva and fur.

Common symptoms of rodent allergies include:

- Itchy skin
- Eczema
- Nausea

The best way to get rid of rodents is to hire a [local pest control company](#) to perform [rodent control](#).

Biting Insects

Insects such as mosquitoes, bedbugs and fleas are among the most common household pests. They can infest any area inside or outside of your home. Allergies are usually induced when the insect bites the skin directly.

The most common symptoms from insect bites include:

- Itching of the skin
- Pain
- Minor swelling
- Redness

The best way to treat a bedbug and insect infestation is through [extermination and removal](#).

If you have any questions on pest removal services, contact [Dustin Pest Control](#) for the best pest control Fresno has to offer.

Week 7: Protect Driveway from Cracking, Pitting, and Crumbling for Baird Foundation Repair and How To Make Your Home Stay Warm This Winter for Big Mountain Heating and air.

Protect Driveway From Cracking, Pitting, Crumbling

Your driveway is one of the first things that family and friends see when they visit your home, which makes [driveway repair](#) and maintenance more important than you think. Not only can driveway imperfections affect your home's value, but [driveway cracks](#) and uneven surfaces in your concrete can pose safety hazards that can result in severe injuries. Whether you want to

replace concrete slabs in your home or you are considering concrete repair services, we will explain the benefits of PolyLEVEL injections and mudjacking services and how they protect your concrete in the long run.

Why Does Concrete Crack?

Concrete cracks can occur due to environmental exposure, improper construction techniques or design faults. There are many different types of cracks and ways to prevent them. Here are the most popular types of concrete cracks.

Flexural Cracks

Flexural cracks happen after the hardening state and occur in the tension zone, usually caused by design issues. Providing sufficient reinforcement can prevent these cracks from happening.

Drying Shrinkage Cracks

Drying shrinkage cracks occur after the hardening stage. They occur when the concrete's volume is decreased after the water content in the concrete evaporates. To prevent these cracks, the designer needs to control shrinkage by providing strong rebar support, which equips the concrete with sufficient strength.

Thermal Cracks

Thermal cracks occur during the hardening stage and are due to a decrease in the moisture of the concrete, usually caused by evaporation of the surface water that is needed to properly set the concrete. Since evaporation is more likely in hot temperatures, pouring concrete in warm weather accelerates its setting time, weakening the finished product and making it more susceptible to these thermal cracks.

South Texas Soil

Another determining factor of concrete imperfections that is completely uncontrollable is the soil conditions in your region. A good soil foundation can greatly increase your concrete's lifespan. Unfortunately for South Texans, gumbo clay is the most common soil in the region- which just so happens to be one of the worst soil foundations there is.

Gumbo clay is unstable because it swells when it comes in contact with water, and shrinks when the water evaporates. This causes the soil surfaces to frequently expand and contract, which results in a shifty and easily crackable foundation. South Texas' extreme hot temperatures certainly don't help with this issue.

The Solution to Driveway Cracks

[Two major solutions to driveway cracks](#) are PolyLEVEL injections and mudjacking services.

Mudjacking is beneficial because it can last up to 8-10 years depending on your soil foundation. It can cost about half the amount that it would take to replace your entire concrete slab, which makes it a much more affordable option. Mudjacking fixes the actual underlying issues unlike replacing the concrete. A new concrete slab would have the same likelihood of settling and cracking as the previous one, due to the still present soil issue.

[PolyLEVEL injections](#) are much more beneficial than mudjacking techniques since they are more time efficient and lightweight. It only takes 15 minutes to reach its [final stage](#), compared to the entire day that it takes for mudjacking to settle. The drill hole from PolyLEVEL is also much smaller and less visible than that of mudjacking. Additionally, PolyLEVEL is environmentally friendly since it does not release harmful chemicals in the soil. Other benefits include that it's waterproof, less messy and highly adjustable.

For more information on concrete repair services, contact [Baird Foundation Repair](#).

How to Make Your Home Stay Warm This Winter

Staying warm and cozy this winter should be one of your biggest priorities in these uncertain times. It is especially important to cherish the special moments that we are fortunate enough to spend with our loved ones as we quarantine in our homes. To ensure that you stay warm this winter, below are recommended services including [furnace repair](#) and [window installation](#) that can make your dream of a warm and cozy home a reality.

Window Installation

Installing new windows does more than just increase the value and overall appearance of your home. New windows can also act as a weather barrier from cold weather outside. When you have a window draft, it is extremely easy for hot air to escape your home. Window installations ensure that there is an airtight seal keeping the hot air inside. Additionally, new windows eliminate the amount of caulking that you must do every winter to reduce drafts.

Most people use curtains to block drafts in old windows to keep the hot air inside. With new windows, you are finally able to open those curtains and let the sunshine in. Letting in sunlight

not only warms up your home but also increases the amount of beautiful natural light that brightens up your home.

Furnace Repair and Tune-Ups

Furnace tune-ups and repairs are an essential key to keeping your furnace running smoothly and efficiently this winter. A furnace tune-up includes a full inspection of your furnace and duct system. The technician will examine all of the working parts of your furnace to make sure that they are running properly and don't need repairing. Your filter will be replaced to ensure that airflow is blowing without restrictions, which will also reduce your energy bill due to the decreased workload that your system has with a clean filter.

By doing a tune-up you will be nipping the issues in the bud, which will allow you to dodge costly repairs and unnecessary stress in the future.

Unique Tips to Keep Your House Warm

Some other random tips that will keep your house warm include:

- Investing in throw rugs and blankets

Not only do rugs reduce floorboard drafts, but they also help keep your feet warm in rooms with hard floors

- Cover your kitchen hood

Did you know that your kitchen hood can be a pathway into your home for the cold air outside? By covering it when it is not in use, you are reducing the leaks that can cause the hot air inside of your house to escape and the cold air that tries to enter

- Open all of your vents

Most people think that by closing some of your vents, you are distributing more hot air into the rooms that need it most, however, this is not the case. By closing your vents, you are making your furnace work twice as hard which can cause your furnace to function less efficiently. The pressure built up in your furnace due to closed vents that can ultimately lead to costly damages and a low-quality system that doesn't heat your home up properly

For more information on furnace repair services and window installations, contact [Big Mountain Heating & Air](#).

Week 8: 4 FAQ's About Warranties for Go Green and 4 Home Electrical Components That Should Be Upgraded for Gulf Coast Electric.

4 FAQ's About Warranties

From the day of installation and on, AC systems require much tender love and care to continue running smoothly. Unfortunately, unexpected and costly AC repair fees can break your wallet. Luckily for people with newer systems, most manufacturers provide AC warranties that can cover most fees that come with AC services. Below are some of the most frequently asked questions about AC warranties.

How Does a Warranty Work and What Does it Cover?

Most manufactures provide coverage for your new air conditioner and furnace equipment, and many cover the compressor. Additionally, they will cover the cost of future repairs and replace any malfunctioning parts. Most companies cover both equipment warranty and labor warranty, but it is always a good idea to ask about the company's warranty before purchasing a system.

How Long do AC Warranties Last?

Most warranties last 5-10 years, but some even last for the entire lifetime of the system. Some top-quality companies also offer labor warranties that last the entire life of the air conditioner and heater.

How Do You Avoid a Warranty Void?

It is crucial that you take the time to understand the terms of your warranty after purchasing your system, so you dont accidentally void your warranty. Here are the most common ways in which warranties are voided:

- The unit is installed by someone who is not a professional
- There is no regular maintenance performed on the unit
- There is no documentation proving that maintenance was performed
- They use cheaper parts to fix the unit that are not approved under the warranty
- The unit is not registered properly

To make sure that you don't void your warranty, you must be carefully follow all of the conditions that come with your system. Furthermore, it is important to frequently perform [maintenance services](#) for your system and register it properly.

Are AC Warranties Worth it?

Yes, AC warranties are worth it. However, most experts believe that extended warranties may be a waste of money. Most repair fees and system parts are covered under the manufacturer's original warranty, so paying the extra cash for an extended one is mostly useless.

For more information about AC warranties, contact [Go Green](#). Go Green provides the best AC services Austin has to offer.

4 Home Electrical Components that Should be Upgraded

In this modern era, it is essential to have a renovated home to keep up with the fast-paced technology changes that seem to happen every day. There are many upgradable home components that can improve your way of living and increase the efficiency of your devices. To make sure that you are up to date, consider the four electrical upgrade components below.

Upgraded Outlets

Modern families have more devices than ever before. Tablets, phones, and laptops all require sufficient outlets to power them, so consider making sure that there are more than two outlets per room. Another functional upgrade worth considering is to add more USB outlets to your home. Nowadays, many devices come with USB chargers that can be conveniently plugged into USB outlets to fuel up a charge.

It is also noteworthy to mention that you should ensure your outlets are up to date. If you notice that your plugs are beginning to slip out, it is probably time for new outlets.

New Electric Panel

Old panels are likely to get rusty and operate less efficiently over time. Additionally, the electrical wires in your panel can fray. An old panel raises the risk of a fire or injury, and can also raise your energy bill.

Dimmer Switches

By replacing plain switches with dimmers, you increase the amount of lighting control that you have per room. This can allow for rich and precise illumination of any space or event. By installing dimmers, you can save money on electricity bills while simultaneously making each room more personalized and modern.

Copper Wiring

A couple of decades ago there was a copper shortage that caused many American homes to install aluminum wiring instead of copper. Although aluminum is as good a conductor as copper, it is much more likely to compress in walls and outlets which can create safety hazards. It is a good idea to inspect your home's wiring system to make sure that everything is still intact. Furthermore, consider upgrading to copper wiring if you find aluminum wires in your home.

For more information on electrical upgrades or residential electrical services, contact Gulf Coast Electric.

Week 9: When Is The Best Time to Install Solar Panels? for Big Mountain Heating and Air and When to Call For Emergency Roof Service for Destin Roofing

When Is the Best Time To Install Solar Panels?

Solar panels are by far the most efficient and eco friendly electricity source for homeowners. Solar energy is not only a clean and renewable energy source that produces zero pollution, but it can also save you a substantial amount of money on utility bills. Installing a solar panel system can revolutionize the way that you receive energy and offers many benefits for both you and the environment. Below we will discuss why winter is the best time for solar panel installation.

Save Money

Due to the low demand for solar panels in the winter, it is considerably cheaper to get them installed during the winter months as opposed to the peak summer months. Additionally, the faster that you install your system the faster you begin to save on your utility bills.

Fast Installation

Since there are fewer people installing solar panels in the winter, it is likely that your solar panel system will be installed quickly. During the summer months, there are longer waiting periods to get your system installed. These waiting periods can be up to weeks long, so installing in the winter is the ideal option.

Avoid the Heat

On average, it takes about 45 days to get approved by the government and utility companies to install solar panels in your home and begin producing your own electricity. During the peak summer months, homeowners tend to see higher utility bills. By installing the solar panels in the winter you are ensuring that your panels will be up and running by the time that summer rolls around, which will save you more money in the long run.

Many people believe that installing solar panels in the winter is useless because the panels are less effective. The truth is that solar panels generate energy even in cloudy weather and low temperatures. Going solar helps the environment, reduces blackouts and saves you money on utility bills, so what are you waiting for?

For more information on solar panel installation, contact [Big Mountain Heating & Air](#).

When to Call for Emergency Roof Service

As a homeowner, it is your responsibility to ensure that your home is properly maintained to avoid any emergency repairs. Roofs shelter you from outside elements such as water, debris and animals that can enter your home and cause damage, making the roof of your home unsurprisingly one of the things that keep you most safe. Should any harm fall upon your roof, you must be able to determine what damages will require emergency roof repair. Below are the main causes of emergency roof repair.

Hailstorms

Big pieces of hail can crash through parts of your roof which can cause holes or uneven sections. Hail can also crack and damage some of your shingles, leaving your roof vulnerable. It is always a good idea to take a close look at your roof after a hailstorm to make sure that everything is still in good shape.

Wind Damage

Strong gusts of wind can damage shingles or even blow them away entirely. The older your roof is the more susceptible the shingles are to breaking. If your shingles fall off completely you need to replace them to prevent leaks in your home.

Heavy Rain

Soil strength is susceptible to weakening after days of heavy rain. This extremely weak soil leads to trees and plants falling, which can cause damage to your roof. Even if only a tree branch falls on your roof, it is always a good idea to check that your roof is in good condition.

Lack of Maintenance

If you take long periods of time between your roof inspections, you may be overlooking damaged gutters and shingles. You should always make time to examine your roof to prevent long-term damages and costly emergency repairs.

Contact [Destin Roofing](#) for more information on roof installations and emergency roof repair services.

Week 10: The Life Cycle of Termites for Dustin Pest Control and Winter Habits of Snakes for Apple Pest Control

Winter Habits of Snakes

Snakes are unable to regulate their internal body temperature like most mammals since they are cold-blooded. Like warm-blooded creatures, snakes also seek shelter from the winter's harsh cold weather. Although this behavior is similar to hibernation, scientists call this brumation. During this process, snakes are shutting down their systems, conserving their energy and preparing for reproduction. Below we explain what brumation is and why snakes do it during the winter.

What is Brumation?

Since snakes are cold-blooded animals who can't regulate their body temperature easily, during cold weather they tend to become sluggish and lethargic. Their increasingly inactive body makes them less likely to catch and digest prey.

During the process of brumation, the snake's body gradually slows its metabolism and starts conserving energy. Since they use less energy, they are also able to handle longer periods without feeding. Although they do sleep higher amounts during brumation, they are still able to leave the den to look for food and water, unlike warm-blooded animals during hibernation.

When do Snakes Brumate?

Brumation periods vary in every region. In northern regions where there is typically colder weather, brumation periods last longer and start earlier. Usually, brumation can start from September through December, and end until March or April. Depending on the weather pattern, some snakes can come out of brumation if the weather is warm enough outside.

Where do Snakes Brumate?

Snakes tend to go underground, under rockpiles and into mammal burrows to avoid freezing temperatures. Normally, they find underground shelter in slopes that form natural dens. These dens have rocks that absorb heat which provides warm shelter while the snakes brumate.

Other possible brumation locations in the wild include:

- Rodent dens
- Tree stumps
- Caves
- Deep caverns

Other possible brumation locations NOT in the wild include:

- Garages
- Basements
- Crawl spaces
- Boiler rooms
- Sheds
- Storage rooms
- Car engines

Ideally, the best brumation place is somewhere away from rain or the outside elements. Sometimes snakes prefer brumating in groups since their body heat serves to help them stay warmer.

San Antonio snakes are no joke. For more information on [snake removal and snake control](#) services, contact [Apple Pest Control](#).

The Life Cycle of Termites

Termites have the power to destroy your home if they go unnoticed. Your home's wood, drywall and even some metals can fall victim to a colony of termites. You might ask yourself: how long do termites live? As a homeowner, it's important to know their life cycle since it directly affects you. Below we will explain how termites reproduce and how long they live.

Where Do Termites Live?

Termite colonies live in the ground or your [home's infrastructure](#). A colony can have up to 75 different termites. When the weather is extreme and termites have a lower risk of survival, nests can be started in one of two ways. One way is to transfer the infected wood or material to a new location. The second way is to divide a food source, which can cause a subcolony to break off and reproduce.

[Signs of termites are:](#)

- Shed wings left behind
- Swarms
- [Mud tubes](#)
- Cracked or bubbling paint
- Wood that sounds hollow when tapped

What Kind of Termites Exist?

There are three different kinds of termites: workers, soldiers and swarmers. They all serve a different purpose in the colony.

Workers

- Build or repair the nest
- Look for food sources to feed the colony
- Maintain the colony

Soldiers

- They are sterile so they can't reproduce
- Protect the colony

Swarmers

- Their main purpose is to reproduce
- They have two pair of wings

When Do They Reproduce?

Swarmers tend to emerge from their nests in large groups in the spring after the cold weather is over. Female swarmers then release pheromones (basically, a mating scent similar to perfume) which attract the male swarmers. Then, the male swarmers break off their wings which symbolize that they are now a couple. Once they select a mate, the new couple becomes king and queen of their newly established colony.

It can take up to four years for a new colony to produce its own reproductive termites. In one year, the queen can lay anywhere from zero to about 20 eggs. A termite queen can live up to 30 years.

For more information on termites and their life cycle, visit [Dustin Pest Control](#).

Week 11: How to Check Ductwork for Air Leaks for My Guy Heating and Air

How to Check Your Ductwork for Air Leaks

Your air conditioner's ductwork is an extremely important component that affects the performance of your system. Aside from the indoor and outdoor system, the ductwork system is one of the best places to look for AC issues. Signs that your air ducts are leaking include uneven heating and cooling, a dusty home and high utility bills. Here is a step-by-step guide to check your ductwork system for leaks.

1. Look for Tears

The first and most obvious step is to check your entire ductwork for holes and tears. If you spot a tear in the ductwork, mark it so you can go back later to patch it up.

2. Turn Your AC on High

By turning your AC up, you make it easier to spot holes and faults in your ductwork. Air duct leaks will be more obvious when the air comes through at a high speed because it's easier to feel it and hear it.

3. Inspect Duct Joints

Joints in your duct system are a common place for air leaks. It is a good idea to place your hand over these areas to make sure that no air flows through these spaces.

4. Search For Old Duct Tape

Many people believe that duct tape is a good patch to a leaky air duct system, but that is not the case. Patching a vent hole with duct tape is a temporary solution to a problem that eventually needs a professional fix. Inspect your duct system to find any old duct tape that needs to be removed and sealed correctly. Mark any leaks during this process so you can patch them up later.

5. Smoke Test

Anything that releases smoke can be a great tool for finding holes in your ducts. A smoke pencil or incense is a great example of a tool that you can use to perform a smoke test to find air duct leaks. Try running the tool under the ductwork system slowly and the smoke will indicate small leaks that your eye may not catch. If you see the smoke move or twirl unusually, then you know that the smoke is being sucked up or blown off by the air duct. Mark these smaller leaks so you can patch them up later.

6. Seal Up Leaks

Before you can locate any other remaining leaks, you must first seal all of the current leaks that you have marked. To seal these tears in your ductwork you must use foil-faced tape to wrap the air duct or apply mastic to the leak directly.

7. Fog Machine Test

Last but not least, you can rent out a fog machine from a nearby shop and try this fog test to locate any remaining leaks. Since you already sealed up all of the visible leaks, this step will be much easier to do and will help you pinpoint an exact leak location.

By not sealing all of the previous leaks that you have found, you would make this step much harder since the fog can come out of several holes which makes it difficult to locate where the smoke is coming through.

To perform the test, you must place the fog machine by your furnace or blower intake fan. Then, you will wait for the fog to come out of your air ducts to point out any remaining leaks. Lastly, seal up any remaining leaks that you find with foil-faced tape or mastic.

8. Contact a Professional

Will the steps above guarantee a perfect air duct system? Realistically, it is impossible to ensure that you will not have issues with your system even after completing the steps above. Sometimes it is extremely difficult to locate your ductwork system in the first place. Other times your air duct damage is so severe that you may need your ductwork replaced entirely.

The best advice that we can give you is to call an HVAC expert when your AC system is in dire need of a professional fix.

For more information on air duct repair or air duct replacement, contact [My Guy Heating and Air](#).

Week 12: New Years Home Remodeling Resolutions for Window World TX

New Years Home Remodeling Resolutions

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is that feeling comfortable inside of your home is very important. While many families are still working from home, it is worth considering if remodeling parts of your house will make staying at home a more enjoyable experience in the long run. Whether you are considering replacement windows or new wall paint, there are many things that can make your home feel lively and new. Here are some [resolution remodeling ideas](#) that will certainly bring some excitement to the start of your new year.

Bright Paint

Did you know that dark colors absorb more light, consequently seeming to shrink the space of the room? Bright colored paint, however, has the opposite effect. The bright colors reflect light,

which is beneficial because you won't require high wattage light bulbs to light the room. Instead of using dark paint, try using dark-colored floors and bright colored walls. This will give the room a great contrast while still bringing in light.

Replace Windows

Consider [window replacement and window installation](#) if you want to dramatically change the look and feel of your kitchen and living room. Windows not only bring in a great deal of natural light to your home, but they also protect your home from outside elements. Investing in wooden frames that are more energy efficient will save you money since wooden frames are naturally better insulators than aluminum frames.

Go Solar

Solar panels are an efficient and eco-friendly electricity source that is great for your home and the environment. Solar panels will produce clean and renewable energy for your home and will also reduce your electricity bills, so what are you waiting for?

Upgrade Lighting

Did you know that LED bulbs last much longer than the standard incandescent bulbs all while using less electricity? Modern LED bulbs are extremely customizable and can add style to any room. Smart LED bulbs even change colors and sync to the beat of music through Bluetooth or wifi connection. Upgrading your lighting can save you money and add flair to your home.

For more information on window services and installation, contact [Window World TX](#).

Week 13: Why is my toilet bubbling? For Parker & Sons and How often should you clean your air ducts for Express Air

Why Is My Toilet Bubbling?

Not all types of bubbles are cute- especially the ones that come from your toilet. If your toilet is bubbling and making gurgling sounds even when it's not flushing, it is most likely due to a plumbing issue. Whether the plumbing issue is localized to just your home or is affecting the entire neighborhood, it is important to know when an issue is easy enough to fix on your own or serious enough to call a professional. So what should a homeowner do if their toilet bubbles when flushed? Below are the main causes of toilet bubbles and how to fix them.

Gurges and Bubbles

A good drainage system should have free airflow that is rid of airlocks to allow the waste to go straight down the drain without issues. When suction builds in the drain due to negative air pressure in a blocked line, gurgles and bubbles are the consequence. Gurgles and bubbles can be signs of a toilet clog, a blocked vent or a municipal sewer line clog.

Toilet or Drain Clog

In the best-case scenario, bubbles are due to a small toilet clog that can be fixed in a couple of minutes with a plunger. In the worst-case scenario- if a toilet drain is left unfixed- the waste can eventually travel back up through the tub, toilet and shower (we bet you desperately want to know how to unclog a toilet now).

So many situations can cause a toilet clog. A toilet clog could mean that your flushing system is weak and outdated. Clogs can also occur if you dispose of objects and materials that are not meant to be flushed down the pipelines. Some of these items include:

- Paper towels
- “Flushable” wipes
- Makeup wipes
- Feminine products
- Cigarette Butts

The ideal and quick solution to most clogs is a plunger, which is an accessible tool available to most homeowners. Before you start pumping, make sure to seal every nearby drain hole in your restroom like tubs or sinks. By sealing them you are preventing the air pressure from escaping through the drain holes in the bathroom fixtures when you start plunging. Once the drains are sealed, fit the head of the plunger to the drain hole and pump about 10-15 times.

If the clog persists, try using a sewer snake to dislodge the clog. Two types of snakes serve different purposes- a mechanical and a manual. Use a manual snake when the clog is near the drain hole. For tougher clogs that are deeper down the drain hole, use a mechanical snake.

Vent Pipe

American homes have vent pipes that help control your toilet’s air pressure. A blocked vent pipe can restrict airflow and result in your toilet bubbling and gurgling. Signs of a blocked vent include bubbles or a foul sewer odor coming from your drain. Debris and small animal carcasses are the most common causes of a blocked vent. In rare cases, you may even find a bird’s nest blocking the pipe.

If you feel comfortable enough to climb onto your roof, you can use tools such as a garden hose or a wired hanger to dislodge the objects that are trapped in the vent. If the blockage is too dangerous to remove, we suggest calling your local plumbers at Parker & Sons to fix it.

Municipal Sewer Clog

If the toilet bubbles persist, then it may be a sign of a bigger issue. In some cases, the municipal sewer line- the line that leads waste away from your house- is the culprit. In this case, you are not responsible for fixing the clog, the town is. Call your neighbors to see if they are also experiencing issues with their plumbing. If the issue is widespread throughout your neighborhood, contact your township or water company as soon as possible.

For more information on toilet repair services, contact [Parker & Sons](#).

How Often Should You Clean Your Air Ducts?

Your air conditioner's ductwork is an extremely important component of your system that affects your indoor air quality. Air conditioning systems are prone to collect contaminants such as bacteria, mold and fungi that can affect your overall health. People with asthma or severe allergies should strive to keep their ductwork clean and in good shape. So, if you wonder how often air duct cleaning services should be performed, continue reading.

What is an Air Duct Cleaning Service?

An air duct cleaning service is best performed when using a specialized powerful vacuum. The vacuum draws air through the ductwork, and tools are used to remove any debris that is stuck to the interior walls. Two types of vacuums are used to perform a cleaning service. Truck-mounted vacuums are generally more powerful but are hard to relocate if you want to reach a specific area in a building or home that is not accessible. Portable vacuums are less powerful but can be brought directly into a facility or home which helps to be closer to the ductwork.

Antimicrobial chemicals should only be used to clean the ductwork in circumstances where there is microbial contamination such as mold, viruses and bacteria. To use the chemicals you should first thoroughly clean the system to remove debris and dust. Usually, antimicrobial cleaning services are a separate service from the standard air duct cleaning, so there will be an additional charge.

How Often Do You Need a Service?

The number of services you need depends on several circumstances. Several things can speed up the build-up of contaminants in your ductwork. You should consider getting your ductwork cleaned more frequently if:

- There are smokers in your household
- You own pets that shed frequently
- You recently had home renovations
- There is water contamination in your home or system

Besides these general factors, experts suggest cleaning your ductwork system every 3-5 years.

How Much Does it Cost?


The cost of your air duct cleaning service depends on several factors. In most areas, the cost of a cleaning service ranges from 450 to 1,000 dollars. The different factors that affect pricing include:

- Climatic regio
- Contamination severity
- System size
- System accessibility
- Duct material


For more information on air duct cleaning services, contact [Express Air](#).

Social Media Posts


Daniel Burke Attorney at Law

 **Dan Burke Attorney at Law**
Published by Maria Gil · November 11 · 🌐


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— Attorney At Law —

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How to Legally Handle the Sudden Passing of a Family Member - Dan Burke Attorney At Law


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Published by Kim Nandakumar · November 12 at 10:17 AM ·

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 Published by Mitchell Coker · September 7 ·

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“ PLEASURE IN THE JOB PUTS PERFECTION IN THE WORK ”

HAPPY LABOR DAY


DANIEL BURKE
 — Attorney At Law —

Dan Burke Attorney at Law
 Published by Maria Gil · November 18 at 10:42 AM · 🌐

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 Published by Kim Nandakumar · October 30 · 🌐

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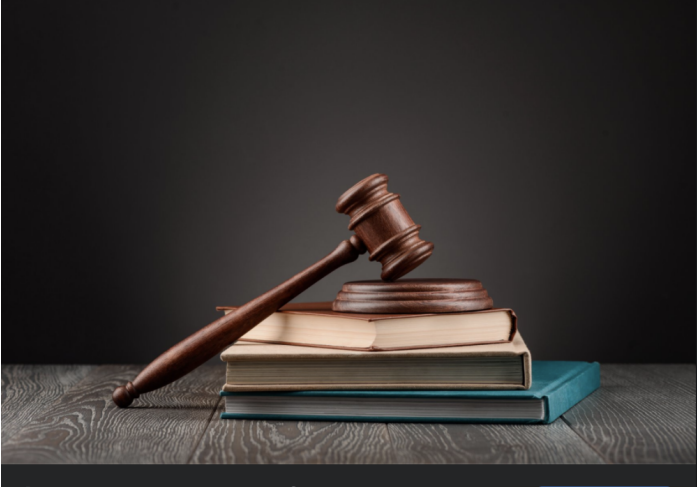
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 Published by Mitchell Coker · October 6 · 🌐

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 Published by Kim Nandakumar · November 6

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 Published by Kim Nandakumar · October 14

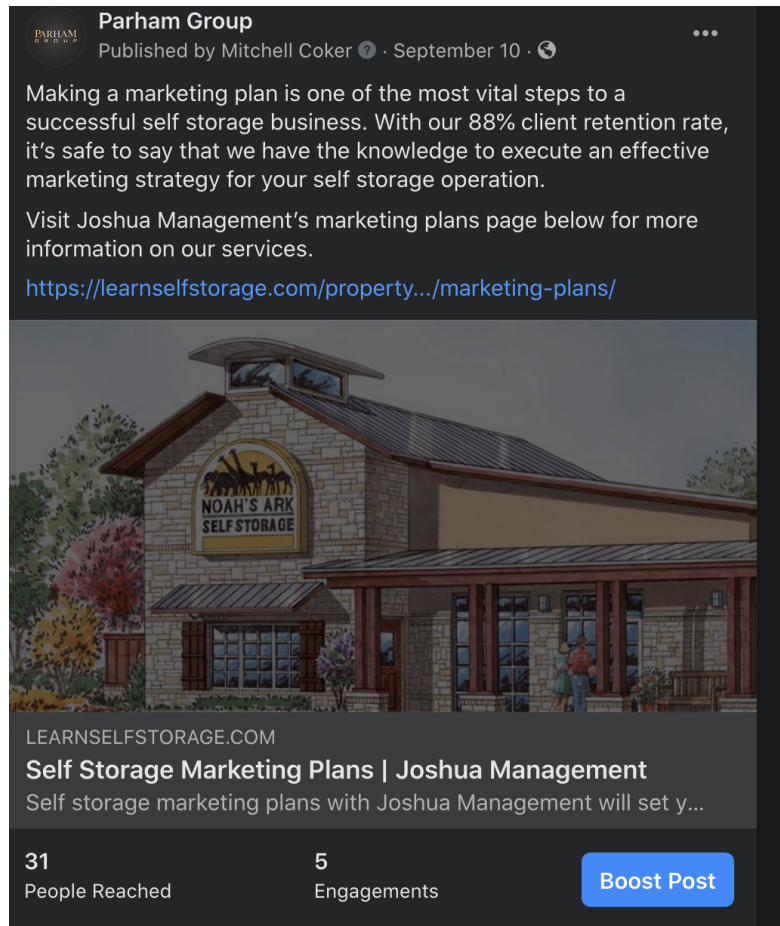
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Parham Group




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Published by Mitchell Coker · September 21 ·

Do you own a self storage business but don't have the time or knowledge to run the day-to-day operations?

If the answer is yes, I have some good news for you. Joshua Management has the expertise to hire and train the right personnel to help run your business so that all you have to do is sit back and watch it thrive.

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Published by Mitchell Coker · September 25 ·

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Noah's Ark Development Consulting Process:

1. **Radius Study:** a radius self storage study is the most important stage in consulting
2. **Trade Area Site Study:** we will identify if the site is in a market with excess self storage demand
3. **Site Plan & Unit Mix:** a business is created dedicated to serve clientele in the market
4. **Economic Feasibility:** we obtain interim and permanent financing for the project

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Published by Mitchell Coker · October 6 ·



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Parham Group

Published by Mitchell Coker · October 9 ·



NDS Construction has over 30 years of self storage construction experience. Their refined development services makes them a go-to source for all of your self storage needs.


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Parham Group
 Published by Maria Gil · October 14 · 🌐 · 🌐

Learn Self Storage was created by the Parham Group to implement lessons and tools for maintaining a successful self storage business.

For more insight into the world of self storage, visit our website to find our free lessons.
<https://learnsselfstorage.com/training/>



12
People Reached

3
Engagements

Boost Post

Parham Group
 Published by Maria Gil · October 22 · 🌐

We are proud to call Safe-N-Sound Self Storage one of our many successful projects. It is a family-owned and operated self storage facility in Kyle, Texas equipped with drive-up access, temperature-controlled units and security cameras.

Click the link below for more information on this facility.
<https://learnsselfstorage.com/.../safe-n-sound-self-storage/>





Parham Group

Published by Maria Gil · October 28 ·

The Parham Group has over 300+ projects completed across the United States. Want to be the next one?

Visit the link below to contact us for more information.

<https://learnselfstorage.com/contact/>



Parham Group

Published by Maria Gil · November 4 ·

Once your self storage construction is completed, we can help you prepare for your grand opening. We will take care of marketing, interior set-up and we will even help you arrange your office and finances.

Visit the link below for more information.

<https://learnselfstorage.com/property.../new-store-startups/>



LEARNSELFSTORAGE.COM

Self Storage Startups | Joshua Management

Launch self storage startups with the help of Joshua Managem...

Parham Group
Published by Maria Gil · November 11 · 🌐

The Parham Group recognizes all of the courageous veterans who served our country. Thank you for your bravery. 🇺🇸




22 People Reached 4 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

Parham Group
Published by Maria Gil · November 12 at 9:45 AM · 🌐

We understand that starting a self storage business is anything but simple. That is why The Parham Group's subsidiaries are perfectly designed to help with every part of the self storage business creation process: consulting, development, construction and management.

Visit our website to find out how we can help you start your own successful self storage business.
<https://learnselfstorage.com/>




LEARNSELFSTORAGE.COM
Self Storage Construction, Consulting & Management | Parham Group
For self storage construction, consulting and management services, Parham Group is your all-in-one resource. Get started with a storag...

25 People Reached 1 Engagement [Boost Post](#)

Parham Group
Published by Lynsey Lamoureux · December 9 at 10:46 AM ·

Optimizing product sales and meeting customer needs is the formula of a successful self storage business. Joshua Management's experience in the evaluation of demographics will help you maximize your marketing success.

Visit the link below to find out more about product sales and services.



LEARNSELFSTORAGE.COM


Product Sales & Services | Learn Self Storage | Parham Group

14 3

Parham Group
Published by Maria Gil · November 18 at 10:42 AM ·

Love's self storage facility in El Paso is just one of our many successful projects. It's fully equipped with temperature-controlled units, security cameras and drive-up access.

Check out the YouTube video below to follow us through the gratifying process of creating this facility.



YOUTUBE.COM

Love's Self Storage- The Parham Group
A journey through the design, construction, and completion of L...

25 People Reached 6 Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

Parham Group
Published by Maria Gil · November 26 at 9:43 AM ·

The Parham Group wishes your family a happy Thanksgiving! 🍂



PARHAM GROUP

84 People Reached 4 Engagements

[Boost Post](#)

Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating

 Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
Published by Leadhub · September 7 ·

Happy Labor Day from us at Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating!



“ PLEASURE IN THE JOB PUTS PERFECTION IN THE WORK ”

HAPPY LABOR DAY

138 People Reached 15 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

 Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
Published by Leadhub · September 10 ·


Sunny California is all fun and games until you come home to a hot house after a long day. Do you know why your A/C is not blowing cold air, and what is causing it?

Read our new blog post to find out the most common causes of this issue.

<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/.../why-is-my-ac-not.../>




MENDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM
Why is my AC not blowing cold air? - Mendez Air Conditioning

 **Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating**
Published by Leadhub · September 18 ·

With California's wildfires, it can be difficult to ensure that the outdoor air quality will always be safe enough to breathe.

Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating services can help improve your indoor air quality to make sure that you and your family are safer inside of your home.

Contact our team or visit our website to learn about what we can do to guarantee that your indoor air quality is improved. ... [See More](#)



MENDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM
Indoor Air Quality | Air Conditioning, Heating, Service, La Quinta CA

38 People Reached 8 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

 **Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating**
Published by Leadhub · September 25 ·

Your air conditioning and heating equipment need regular maintenance to run smoothly and efficiently, which is why we offer the Mendez Protection Plan.

Visit the link below for more information on our maintenance services.

<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/services/maintenance/>

The Mendez Protection Plan

- Same-Day Service Repair
- 10% Discount on Parts
- 1 Year Repair Warranty on Different Plans
- \$10 Off Diagnostic Fee
- 10% Discount of Repairs
- No Overtime Fee
- Priority Service
- Reminder Services





Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating

Published by Leadhub · October 6 ·

Do you need a new AC system? Here at Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating, we offer estimates for AC installation and replacement at no cost!

Visit the link below or give us a call to schedule an appointment today.

<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/contact/>



Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating

Published by Leadhub · October 9 ·

No one likes to wake up in the middle of the night drenched in sweat or shivering under the sheets.

Check out our new blog post to learn more about the optimal sleep temperature and how temperature affects your sleep.

<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/.../does-your-home.../>



MEDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM

Does Your Home Temperature Affect Your Sleep? - Mendez Air Conditioning

37

1

Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
 Published by Leadhub · October 13 ·

Are you ready for the colder temperatures that are right around the corner? Schedule a tune-up to ensure that your heating system runs smoothly all winter long! ❄️
<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/services/maintenance/>




7 People Reached 13 Engagements **Boost Post**


Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
 Published by Leadhub · October 22 ·

If you are having problems with your furnace, sometimes replacing your entire system is the most cost-effective solution. A new furnace will not only perform efficiently, but it will also save you money on energy bills! 💰⚡


Visit our page below for more information on furnace replacement.
<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/services/heating/>



MELENDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM
Furnaces | Heating Service, Repair, Replacement, La Quinta CA

 **Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating**
Published by Leadhub · October 28 ·

Here at Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating, we are proud to offer 100% financing for our customers. Visit the link below to see if you are eligible!
<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/about-us/financing/>



29 5

 **Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating**
Published by Leadhub · November 4 ·

Here at Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating, we provide:

- ➔ 24/7 Service
- ➔ Immediate Response
- ➔ Competitive Pricing
- ➔ 100% Financing

Visit our website below to schedule a free installation estimate.
<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/>





Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating

Published by Leadhub · November 11 ·

As a homeowner, it is extremely vital to maintain your AC to make sure that it is running properly. The compressor, the heart of the AC unit, is one of the most important parts that you should keep an eye on.

Read our new blog post to find out the main indications of a bad AC compressor. ↓



MENDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM

Symptoms Of A Bad AC Compressor - Mendez Air Conditioning



Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating

Published by Leadhub · November 18 at 12:44 PM ·

We proudly serve Palm Desert, Palm Springs and surrounding communities in the Valley with heating and cooling services. 🔥❄️

Request a service today with the link below!



MENDEZAIRANDHEAT.COM

Contact Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating, Service, La Quinta CA

Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
 Published by Enrique Mendez · November 26 at 11:00 AM ·




Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
 Published by Leadhub · November 26 at 10:45 AM ·

Your friends at Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating wish your family a happy Thanksgiving! 🍂

Mendez Air Conditioning & Heating
 Published by Leadhub · December 9 at 10:48 AM ·

Humidifiers can relieve these symptoms: chapped lips, headaches and dry skin. Mendez Air Conditioning and Heating can install a humidifier to help keep your home feeling comfortable all year long. Visit the link below for more information on humidifier maintenance.
<https://www.mendezairandheat.com/services/maintenance/>



Journal

Week 1: I am extremely excited to start this week. I had some problems with connections so my initial first impression wasn't the greatest. My article topic this week is about pests which is actually something that really interests me. I have a dog, so this research is actually helpful for me too. Researching was fun and not as challenging as I thought it would be. As for the social media posts, I really like two of my clients. One of them is a lawyer in San Antonio and the other one is an air conditioning company in California. My last client is honestly really confusing. They do construction, management, and consulting on self storage businesses. The way that they organize their company is very confusing.

Received my feedback on the article and Dale said I did a great job. He also said that I did a great job at formatting in the keywords which I'm really excited about.

Week 2: I really like my article topics this week. I never knew that there was a specific way to store clothes, so this information is really helpful, especially the bit about how to keep moths away from your clothes. I had a hard time finding sources for the ideal temperature for sleep. All of the research was more science based, so it was a challenge to find a good way to write all of the science data down in an understandable and clear manner. I had no idea that your body cools down at night. I have always hated sleeping in hot rooms, so now it all makes sense why I do. The social media posts are honestly really easy. I enjoy writing the social posts because they are less stressful than the articles.

Dale really loved my storage article, and he said that my sleep article was good. He said I provided great tips for storage. He briefly mentioned that I need to remove the oxford comma. That is something I need to work on, because I love the oxford comma.

Week 3: Honestly, I hated my topics this week. So far this is the most challenging week yet. I know absolutely nothing about dryers or garbage disposals, so it was quite an experience researching it. The garbage disposal one specifically was challenging to research and talk about. I am happy that I at least got to learn about what can or cannot go in the garbage disposal, because that knowledge is always useful.

Dale's feedback said that I did pretty good this week, but I need to work on my citations. All he clarified were some GSP errors.

Week 4: Honestly this week was extremely hard. I had to extensively research meter repair services in Chicago, which is something completely out of my comfort zone. I felt really discouraged about this article, since I felt so uneducated on the matter. I tried my best to find good sources in the Chicago utility services directory. Aside from that AC articles intimidate me as well. The social media posts have been running smoothly as usual. Every meeting has gone really great. Our brand coordinators rarely give us bad feedback.

Dale's feedback was amazing this week. He said that my article on electric meter repairs in Chicago was the most researched and well-written article that he has read in his years of running the intern program. He talked about it during the intern meeting, so I felt extremely honored and flattered to receive that kind of recognition in front of the other Leadhub employees and interns.

Week 5: This week was actually pretty interesting and fun. I learned about roofs which is something I previously knew nothing about, and I learned about the importance of maintaining a good compressor in your AC system. I had no idea that roofs had specific advantages when installed in different seasons, so that was really great to learn for my future home services.

Katie provided my feedback this week, and she said that I did a great job. She just made a couple of GSP edits.

Week 6: This week was interesting, and I really liked my topics. I'm slowly getting more comfortable with my writing. I am especially feeling really confident writing in keywords. I used to have a harder time working them into my articles but now I find that I am more natural at it. I learned more about pests this week which is always an enjoyable topic for me somehow. I know some people in my family who have extreme allergies, so it was really great to learn more about pests and how they affect humans.

Dale has a family matter that he has been dealing with so our feedback has been postponed until further notice, but he continues to praise us whenever he sees us in the meetings which is a great feeling.

Week 7: It's never a bad thing to learn about ways to keep your home warm, so I am happy that I got an interesting topic this week. I also surprisingly had a love/hate relationship with my article about driveways. Although it was challenging to research driveways and how to fix them, it was very informative. Since writing this article I have found myself judging people's driveways and sidewalks, and finding different solutions for it in my head. It's crazy how much I am actually learning about the real world through this internship program. I never thought that I would need information about cement, but now that I have the knowledge I see why it is important.

Week 8: This week one of my topics was extremely hard to write about. I had to learn about warranties and how they work, which is something that I am honestly really not informed about. It was difficult to find good sources that talked about warranties, since the only ones who really discuss it are the businesses themselves. My other article about electrical home improvements was interesting enough to make writing about it fun. I am a young person with lots of devices with an interest in technology, so learning about ways to increase your home's efficiency was a great experience. Our social media posts are steadily going good. The interns always receive good feedback in the meetings, minus some small grammatical errors that are pointed out and punctuation corrections.

Week 9: This week was one of my favorite weeks so far. For some reason the articles on roof companies interest me. Specifically the article about solar panels was extremely fun and interesting to write about. Back in my hometown my family was the first family to install solar panels on our house, so it was nice learning more about solar panels. I had no idea that there was a specific method of installation that is more beneficial. I thought installing solar panels would have the same results all year long.

Week 10: As i've mentioned before, my favorite clients to write for are pest companies. I love animals and everything that has to do with animals, so this week was fun to research. I learned a lot about snakes and termites during my research process. I had no idea that termites have different kinds of roles in their nests. I also had no idea that snakes are known to brumate. I thought mammals were the only animals that hibernate.

We have no received feedback from Dale just yet, I think that we will receive it soon.

Week 11: This week there was a mistake in the assigning of articles, so I ended up just writing one. I have always had a hard time researching for air conditioning companies. A lot of the language that they use online is so foreign to me, but I am slowly improving. I used to not know a single compartment of air conditioning systems, but now I know so many. I had no idea how AC's worked before this internship, but now I feel like I could explain to other people how basic things work.

Week 12: This week Mr. Blasingame only assigned one article to do which is great. I feel so much more comfortable in my writing now. Writing keywords, even when they are extremely long and unusual, feels so natural to add into my articles now. I feel like not only am I improving in adding in keywords, but my research time and writing time has been shorter than ever before. I can write and research faster now, which gives me more time to edit my article once I'm done.

As our internship is coming to an end, I am feeling so grateful for this opportunity. Dale has always mentioned how great of an intern group we are, so I am very happy. Being told that we are the strongest intern group he has had feels like an honor.

Week 13: For the last week I got to write about stuff that I am sort of familiar with due to previous articles, so that was a good experience. I never thought that I would enjoy writing about plumbing issues and toilets, but I have surprisingly grown used to it.

I am so excited to continue working for Leadhub next semester. I feel so happy that I get to continue this line of work with the Leadhub team. I learn more and more each day, and I am so excited to learn more as I go next semester.

Organization Profile

YOUR NAME: ___Kenya Ramirez_____

Name of the Company: _____Leadhub_____

Name of your supervisor: _____Dale Blasingame_____

How did your supervisor get into this business?

Dale Blasingame and the founder of Leadhub Ben Hubber had the initial idea to make the digital marketing agency in 2011. Dale is the lead content marketing strategist since he decided not to make Leadhub his job full-time since he is also a professor at Texas State University.

What is the history of the organization?

Ben Hubber, the founder of Champion AC which is also a Leadhub client, decided to found a digital marketing agency along with Dale Blasingame in San Antonio. They wanted to specialize in-home service companies that specialize in areas such as air conditioning, plumbing, and window repair. Since then, Leadhub has grown outside of San Antonio and gained clients around the country. They still specialize in-home service companies, but now also serve clients such as lawyers and self-storage companies.

What is the organization's mission?

To provide professional, dependable and efficient services for their loyal clients. Solid brand growth and strong client relationships are what sets Leadhub apart and sets them up for success.

How is the company organized? (departments, etc.)

Ben Hubbert is the founder Aaron Watters is the CEO. They run the company and usually direct everyone else about their monthly and weekly goals. Our PPC specialists are Albert Salinas and Colby Doyal. They work on statistics and measure brand growth. Dale Blasingame is a Content Marketing Strategist. He is in charge of supervising the interns every semester, and he also strategizes the best ways to enhance client content. Next, we have our brand coordinators Katie

Stone, Maria Gil, Tyler Williams, and Kim Doughty. They help the interns specialize in specific clients to produce tailored content that best suits the companies. They are experts in the wants and needs of each client. Megan Colson is the office manager who handles office duties and the intern's invoices every month.

How does the company measure success?

They measure success by their ability to earn trust through brand growth. They value the relationships that they have with their clients more than anything else. They are the most successful by being dependable and trustworthy with their clients.

Does the company have its own culture? What is it?

The company's culture is inviting and trustworthy. Everyone that works at Leadhub is a part of the team. Everyone is accepting and understanding of each other, no matter your mistakes or differences. If someone has an issue, everyone will jump in to help the other out. Leadhub's environment is warm and fun, yet efficient.

Was this organization a good or bad experience opportunity for you? Why?

Working at Leadhub was a great experience for me. I learned so much about SEO writing and marketing that I didn't know about before. I got the opportunity to work with real-life clients which is the thing I learned most about. Writing for clients and researching for them was extremely informative and challenging. This experience pushed me past my limits and forced me to grow in both my writing and marketing skills. I now feel confident in myself as a digital marketer, which is something I could not say before this experience.

Thank You Note

Professor Blasingame,

I can't thank you enough for giving me the amazing opportunity to work with Leadhub this semester. The experience of working alongside so many knowledgeable and admirable digital marketers has been extremely informative. When I first started this internship, I was nervous about my writing abilities, and the thought of writing content for real clients gave me a huge sense of responsibility that both frightened me and excited me. Every week you gave me plenty of insight and advice on how to improve my grammar and SEO writing, which was extremely helpful in my growth as a writer and marketer. Slowly throughout the semester I have felt more confident in my abilities and seeing my content get better each week has been a fulfilling process. Thank you for always being so patient, understanding and helpful. I am so grateful that you have chosen to extend my time at Leadhub for the Spring semester. The knowledge that I have learned during this internship has prepared me for my future career in more ways than I could've imagined. You have been a fantastic mentor and professor, and for that, I can't thank you enough.

Best regards,

Kenya Ramirez

Revised Resume

Kenya Ramirez

1610 N Interstate 35 Apt 431
San Marcos, Texas 78666
(956)462-8111
kenyaramireztarazon@gmail.com

An efficient student committed to learning and developing skills in digital marketing and team contribution. Self-directed and energetic with superior performance in both autonomous or collaborative environments.

EXPERIENCE

Leadhub, San Antonio — *Digital Marketing Intern*

09 2020 - PRESENT

- Wrote tailored blog content for various service companies around the country.
- Drafted social media posts for clients including an air conditioning company, a self-storage company and a lawyer.
- Became proficient in researching a variety of topics related to the clients' businesses.

Target, San Marcos — *Team Member*

11 2019 - PRESENT

- Organized racks and shelves to maintain the store's visual appearance. Engaged with customers to promote specific merchandise.
- Managed customer relations and customer service through daily communication interaction.
- Helped customers complete purchases, locate items, and join reward programs to promote loyalty, satisfaction and numbers.

Food4You, Laredo — *Delivery Driver*

06 2019 - 08 2019

- Contacted Customers prior to delivery to confirm and coordinate delivery times.
- Completed rush deliveries on tight timetables to satisfy customer needs.
- Planned efficient routes to deliver multiple orders per trip to achieve strong performance ratings.

EDUCATION

Texas State University, San Marcos — *Bachelors of Science in Digital Media Innovation & Mass Communication*

08 2019 - PRESENT

- Dean's List Fall 2019 and Spring 2020
- Awarded Stars Scholarship 2019 & 2020

Laredo College, Laredo — *Associate of Arts Degree in Counseling*

08 2017 - 05 2019

- Graduated with a 3.94 GPA
- Graduated summa cum laude
- Member of Phi Theta Kappa

SKILLS

Fluent in Spanish

Customer Service Experience- 3 years

Able to work in a fast-paced environment

Food handling- 2 years

Stocking items- 1 year

AWARDS

Dean's List- Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Stars Scholarship Award- 2019 & 2020

Inducted to Phi Kappa Phi- Fall 2020

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Spanish

Fluent in English