Homeowner’s Mini Course: Easy AC Maintenance & Clog Prevention

This guide is designed to help South Florida homeowners keep their air conditioning systems clean, efficient, and clog-free. These simple DIY tips will help you save money, breathe cleaner air, and avoid expensive breakdowns.

# 1. Tools Every Homeowner Needs for AC Maintenance

• Wet/Dry Vacuum – Clear clogged drain lines.
• White Vinegar or Bleach – Pour monthly into the drain line to prevent algae.
• Air Filters – Change monthly during heavy use.
• Flashlight – Inspect drain pans and vents.
• Funnel – Makes pouring into the drain line easy.
• Condensate Pan Tablets – Optional odor control.

# 2. How to Flush Your AC Drain Line (Step-by-Step)

1. Turn off the AC system at the thermostat and breaker.
2. Locate the clean-out cap on the drain line.
3. Remove cap and pour 1/4 cup vinegar or bleach using a funnel.
4. Let sit 30 minutes, then flush with warm water.
5. Replace cap and turn system back on.
Do this monthly to avoid clogs and water damage.

# 3. How Often Should You Change Your AC Filter

• Every 30 days in high-use months (like summer).
• 60–90 days with light use.
• Every 15–20 days with pets or allergies.
Signs of a dirty filter: weak airflow, dust buildup, higher bills.

# 4. How to Spot AC Trouble Before It Becomes Expensive

• Water pooling or leaking – Drain issues.
• Ice on copper lines – Refrigerant or airflow problems.
• Weak airflow – Blocked ducts or bad blower.
• Musty smell – Mold or moisture.
• Loud buzzing/clicking – Electrical or motor problems.
• Constant running – Dirty coil or low refrigerant.

# 5. Why AC Tune-Ups Are Worth It (And What’s Included)

What we do:
• Clean drain line & pan
• Inspect electrical components
• Check refrigerant pressure
• Clean condenser coil
• Test capacitors/contactors
• Verify airflow & thermostat
Benefits: Lower bills, prevent breakdowns, extend AC life.