## Spring Cleaning: Don't Forget About Your HVAC System

After a long and cold winter, March will usher in spring, a season that's perfect for home improvement projects. Do you plan on doing any spring cleaning this year? If so, consider adding the cleaning of your HVAC system to your "to do" list.

Your heating and air conditioning systems can't run efficiently without proper upkeep. It doesn't take a lot of money or time to keep your system in tip top shape. First, if you haven't had your HVAC system serviced in the past 12 months, schedule a time to have it serviced this spring! What are you waiting for?

An HVAC system should be serviced and checked for any problems once a year. Service from a reputable company can cost anywhere from \$75 to \$200—of course prices vary from company to company. Also, be sure to change your air filters. Depending on the quality of the product, you may need to change your filter every month. A dirty filter can cause your system to work harder, using more electricity and raising your bill. Finally, be sure to move any leaves or branches away from your HVAC system outside and trim back trees and bushes that may be growing closer to outdoor units. HVAC systems work best when free of debris.