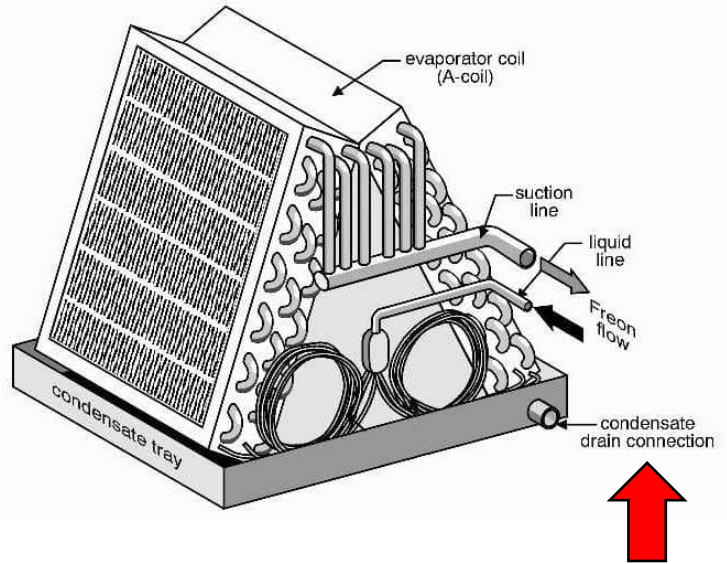
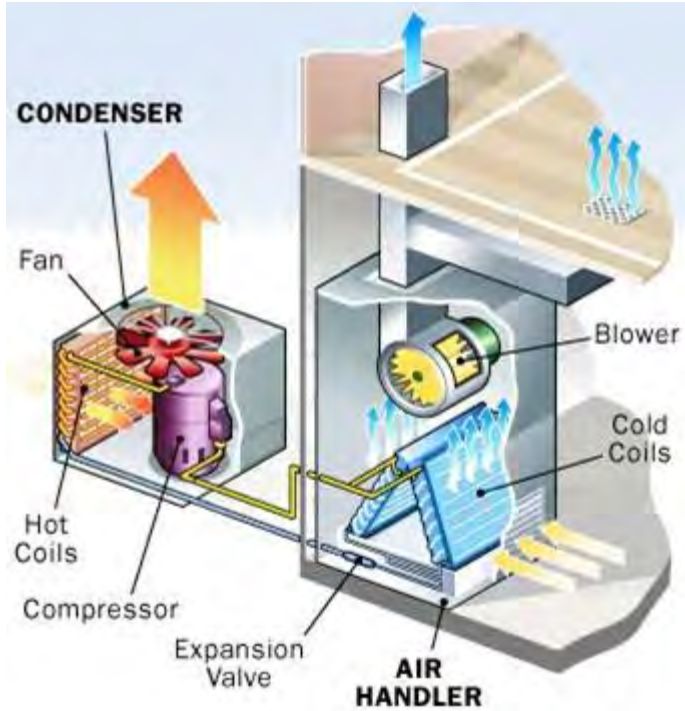


AC Drain-Line Plugging

The “air handler” for our AC system is located inside our homes in a closet. Because of its location the condensate drain-line must run under the concrete slab to reach the outside of our homes.



In general, the system works but we are very prone to drain-line plugging as evidenced by the repeated number of incidents that have occurred in Verona. **In the heat of a Florida summer, losing your air conditioning is a horrible thing!** If you do lose your air, try this before you even call the repairman because this is going to solve the problem 90% of the time:



Hook a wet/dry shop vacuum to the drain line outside and let it suck out the blockage that is triggering the safety float valve. The system will likely come back on immediately! The float valve is inside your AC closet and looks like the one below.





My System



My Neighbors'

We just had our AC system serviced on April 18, 2018 and the technician told us it would no longer be necessary to vacuum out the line if we have a contract with them to maintain the system. They will come once a year and clean it out with a solvent and that's all it needs. Oh yeah – the jar on the left is from mine and the jar on the right is from the Petersen's AC line that was last vacuumed out on March 1, 2018. Personally, I don't see a big difference, even though their jar has been sitting a bit longer when I took their picture, so the sediment had a little more time to settle out.



When I first stuck my vacuum line into my plastic drain-line pipe, this fell out. I have decided, contract or not, I will continue to vacuum my drain-line out every 3 to 6 months, most often in the summer months when this AC is working overtime.

I'm sure many of you have a shop vac and may have been told about vacuuming out the drain-lines by Minto. But if you don't have one and your neighbor doesn't have one, mine is always available. The optional small hose that I have just happens to fit right into the pipe, so it seals itself quite nicely.

Jim Sears