

## LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER SPOTLIGHT:

# TIM ORTH, Orth Plumbing, LLC

Tim Orth (center) and Orth Plumbing technicians  
Matt Painter (left) and Steve Kerlin



“Their pricing has been really good. They seem to go the extra mile to get things done!”

If you’ve ever tried to tackle a plumbing project in your home—replacing a faucet, hooking up a garbage disposal, unclogging a sink—and ended up having to call a plumber to finish the job, you’re not alone, according to Tim Orth, licensed Master Plumber and owner of Elizabethtown-based **Orth Plumbing, LLC**.

“We get a couple calls each month where a homeowner has tried to fix their plumbing and ended up making it worse,” says Orth, a plumber since 1991. “More than ever, people are trying to cut costs and save money, so it makes sense that they’d attempt to replace something like a kitchen faucet themselves instead of paying a professional. But often it ends up costing them more—in both time and money.”

“I’d recommend that if you aren’t 100% confident you can tackle the project, it’s best to just give us a call and let a professional handle it.”

When it comes to finding ways for his customers to save money, there are a number of suggestions Orth will make, and one of particular interest lately is the recent

federal tax credit being offered for heating, cooling, and water heating equipment.

“Homeowners can take tax credits of 30% of the installed cost for purchasing qualifying equipment, with a maximum benefit of \$1,500,” he explains. “This covers energy-efficient items like tankless water heaters and higher-efficiency heating and cooling equipment, and as result of this tax credit, we’ve seen an increase in requests for these units.”

Orth, who grew up in Elizabethtown, started his plumbing career working for a small plumbing outfit in Hershey. He then worked for several years in Pittsburgh. “It was a lot of fun working in a city like Pittsburgh; I learned a lot, but it was a challenge too, because I was also going to school in the evening for my journeyman plumber’s license.”

He eventually moved back to Elizabethtown and spent a few years working for a large Lancaster-based plumbing company before getting his Master Plumber’s license and venturing out on his own. “I’ve always wanted to have my



See Our Ad on Page 4

**TIM ORTH OFFERS A FEW TIPS TO HELP HOMEOWNERS PREVENT COSTLY REPAIRS.**

- Get your heating and cooling units inspected once a year to make sure they are working properly.
- Prevent pipes from freezing by keeping your heat on and making sure pipes are properly insulated. Use heat tape (this, along with pipe insulation, can be purchased at any hardware store or home improvement center) on any piping that might be susceptible to cold air.
- If your pipes freeze, my best advice is to call Orth Plumbing. You might be tempted to fix it yourself, but you should never use a space heater, hair dryer or torch to thaw out a pipe, because you run the risk of accidental electric shock, fire, or heating up the pipes too quickly that they burst, and then your problem becomes much bigger than a frozen pipe. It's safer to let a trained professional handle this.

- When you're away from home for a few days or more, regardless of time of year, turn off your water. This is a precaution that most homeowners do not take, but it's an easy one that helps prevent water damage from occurring while you're away from home.

**And the one tip Tim says he gives to all of his friends and family (that they usually ignore and end up calling him on a Sunday for a repair) is:**

- Avoid putting a lot of food into your garbage disposal. It's not meant to be a trash can, it's there to grind up small scraps of food that happen to fall into the sink, so routinely overloading your garbage disposal with egg shells and potato peels will eventually cause clogging and potential damage to the disposal.

*Do you have plumbing or heating/cooling questions? Get answers by emailing your questions to Tim at [info@orthplumbing.com](mailto:info@orthplumbing.com).*

own business, and when the timing was right, I did it. Starting a business can be risky, but I had a lot of support and resources. Seven years later, we're still going strong."

Orth Plumbing started in 2003 offering plumbing services, including water conditioning and well pump repair, to residential, commercial and industrial customers in Lancaster County and surrounding areas. In the last seven years, Orth has added several technicians and expanded services to include HVAC.

While Orth Plumbing offers services for plumbing and heating/cooling repairs, a large part of their business is also in new construction and renovations for both residential and commercial customers. "We like the variety that comes with both service and new construction," says Orth.

As one customer's review on Google™ shows, Orth Plumbing is recognized for their excellent service. "They have been quick to service our needs and get the job done right the first time. Their pricing has been really good. They seem to go the extra mile to get things done! Will keep using them for all our plumbing issues, big or small."

"We want to build lasting customer relationships, in fact some of my customers are now my friends," says Orth. "We are experienced, reliable and affordable, and our customers know it's our number one priority to complete jobs efficiently and skillfully." ■

**For inquiries about services, rates and information about how you can earn tax credits up to \$1500, call Orth Plumbing at (717) 361-2536.**