

HOME MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

for fall!

PREVENTATIVE TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME IN GOOD WORKING ORDER...
BECAUSE GOING OUT IN THE COLD TO MAKE A REPAIR IS NOT COOL.

WINTERIZE Your Home:

- Check weatherstripping around windows and doors for tight seal
- Re-install storm windows if you have them
- If you suspect a leak in a roof or gutter, fix it now
- Go around the outside to inspect siding/foundation and plug small holes a mouse may like
- Do a furnace check, replacing filter and turning on humidifier
- If you have a water softener, check filter and salt levels
- Check your refrigerator's water filter at the same time (easy to remember)
- Replace batteries in smoke alarms and CO alarms
- Check fire extinguisher level to make sure it's still adequate
- Clear stairs of clutter - avoid tripping hazards with bulkier shoes and clothing

WINTERIZE Outdoor Spaces:

- Disconnect outside hoses, fix leaky faucets if you have any
- Clean leaves out of gutters
- Do lawn care, including mow one last time, fertilize, aerate, mulch, rake
- Winterize a pond and/or birdbaths, if you have any
- Prune, trim trees and plants; tape trunks to protect from deer, rabbits and other critters
- Divide perennials and bulbs; dig up and store those that don't winter in-ground
- Pull up annual plants; harvest and store flower seeds for next spring, if you wish
- Clean out garden and/or potted containers if any veggies or herbs remain
- Fill bird feeders

WINTERIZE Tools:

- Tune-up lawn mower - empty gas tank, sharpen blade, change the oil
- Prep the snowblower - start it, check gas and oil
- Check your snow shovel - buy another if it's cracked or bent
- Buy de-icer or salt - for sidewalks and driveways

WINTERIZE Cars:

- Assemble a winter driving kit for each car, or check the ones you have -
 - Candle, lighter, flashlight, blanket, water in bottle with room to freeze and not explode
 - Sand, jumper cables
- Check tire treads as well as the spare; fill to recommended levels for winter driving