



Around the House's Home Maintenance Check List for Fall

Outside:

- Before freezing weather arrives, remove garden hoses from bibbs. Drain and store for the winter. Wrap bibbs in insulation.
- Drain in-ground sprinkler systems.
- Clear debris out of window wells, gutters, downspouts, and storm drains.
- Inspect weather stripping on windows and doors for fit and condition. Replace as necessary.
- Inspect windows, doors, and siding for holes and cracks. Caulk as necessary.
- Have chimney inspected and swept (if you didn't do it in the spring).
- Inspect all soffit vents and other venting systems to make sure they're clear of debris.
- Inspect bricks or blocks for cracked mortar or loose joints and repair as necessary.
- Inspect painted surfaces for paint failure, water damage, or mildew and repair or clean as necessary.
- Inspect all exterior caulking and replace as necessary.
- Inspect for broken or cracked glass and damaged screens or storm windows and inspect for loose putty (glazing compound) around glass panes.
- Inspect roof for moss and treat as necessary. Also, examine all flashing and pipe jacks to make sure they will not leak when fall rains arrive.
- Clean all decks and seal if necessary.
- Inspect for signs of rodents and treat as necessary.
- Inspect Gutters and downspouts and make sure they are draining correctly. If they go to the street run a hose and make sure they drain completely and repair as needed.

Inside:

- Have furnace serviced by a licensed professional.
- Remove hair from drains in sinks, tubs, and showers. Use a drain cleaner approved for the materials in your plumbing system if necessary.
- Insulate pipes in unheated garages, attics and crawl spaces.
- Test all smoke detectors (should be done monthly).
- Test all ground-fault circuit interrupters (should be done monthly).
- Inspect food area's and under sink areas for Mice and Rodent damage. Patch and treat as necessary
- Walk around your house and inspect lighting. Change bulbs as needed. This might be a good time to update to LED lighting or add dimmers.
- Inspect Crawlspce or Basement for cracks and water damage. Take notes and pictures of cracks or spalling. This way you can document if things are getting worse.