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## Fall Preparation Tips



Fall is the perfect time to inspect your home and make repairs before Winter's cold weather sets in. Below are some general tips to keep your home and family warm, safe and comfortable this Winter.



### Remember to prep your yard as well.

Put any lawn/garden equipment away.

Clean your tools and store them for the season.

### Check list for a warm safe Winter in and around your home.

Schedule your Winter HVAC system check up now.

Check your fireplace and chimney for damage, residue build-up, or critters.

Check those smoke and carbon monoxide detectors: change the batteries, vacuum them with a soft brush attachment to remove lint and dust.

Run your lawn mower until it's out of gas.

Store patio furniture and grills.

Trim any low hanging or dangerous tree limbs.

Great time to aerate your lawn.

Remove any dead shrubs or plants.

Great time to divide and move perennials.

Add mulch to delicate plants for warmth.

While your checking your home's exterior for damage, handle the touch up painting.

Keep a charged fire extinguisher handy: check the ratings for the room/area it will service.

Think about using a humidifier along with burning wood for heat. Not only will it help your skin, but it'll help protect any fine wood furniture from cracking.

Review your fire escape plan with your children. You may even want to let your neighbors know where the safe zone is for you all to meet up.

Clean out your gutters. Debris can easily divert water onto the roof or siding, setting the stage for mold and rot.

Check your roof - look for and fix any damage.

Check your attic to make sure insulation is installed properly and not missing or being used by critters as a nest.

Check weatherstripping, caulking. Look for cracks and missing sections - they can create drafts and drive up your heating costs.

Repair any leaky faucets - both inside and outside.

Check the outside of your home. Look for missing or cracks in the bricks or stone work. Also look for missing/damaged siding or trim-work.

Combined information sources: DIY Network, Better Homes & Garden, Houselogic by National Association of Realtors, Freshhome Design & Architecture Magazine.

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## Do you have questions about your insurance?

Do you have the insurance you need? Have you had any life changes that might affect your insurance coverage?

**Call us today! We'll look at what you have and answer your questions.**

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