

## Checklists for the Seasons

These are checklists that you can use and incorporate into your routine home maintenance plan for your house. They are broken up into seasons.

### Annually:

Hire a home inspector to perform a home maintenance inspection at part of your routine home maintenance plan.

### In the Spring:

- Check for damage to your roof.
- Check the fascia and trim around your home for deterioration.
- Have a professional air conditioning contractor inspect and maintain your system as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Check your water heater.
- Replace all extension cords that have become brittle, worn or damaged.
- Check your fire extinguishers.
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter.
- Review your fire escape plan with your family.
- Repair all cracked, broken or uneven driveways and walkways to help provide a level walking surface.
- Check the shutoff valve at each plumbing fixture to make sure they function.
- Clean clothes dryer exhaust duct, damper, and space under the dryer.
- Inspect and clean dust from the covers of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

### In the Summer:

- Check kids playing equipment.
- Check your wood deck or concrete patio for deterioration.
- Check the nightlights at the top and bottom of all stairs.
- Check exterior siding.
- Check all window and door locks.
- Check your home for water leaks.
- Check the water hoses on the clothes washer, refrigerator icemaker and dishwasher for cracks and bubbles.

### In the Fall:

- Check your home for water leaks.
- Have a heating professional check your heating system every year.
- Protect your home from frozen pipes.
- Run all gas-powered lawn equipment until the fuel is gone.
- Test your emergency generator.
- Have a certified chimney sweep inspect and clean the flues and check your fireplace damper.
- Remove bird nests from chimney flues and outdoor electrical fixtures.
- Inspect and clean dust from the covers of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Make sure the caulking around doors and windows is adequate to reduce heat/cooling loss.
- Make sure that the caulking around your bathroom fixtures is adequate to prevent water from seeping into the sub-flooring.

### In the Winter:

- Clean the gutters and downspouts.
- Confirm firewood at least 20 feet away from your home.
- Remove screens from windows and install storm windows.
- Familiarize responsible family members with the gas main valve and other appliance valves.
- Clean the clothes dryer exhaust duct, damper and space under the dryer.

- Make sure all electrical holiday decorations have tight connections.
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter.
- Check the water hoses on the clothes washer, refrigerator icemaker and dishwasher for cracks and bubbles.
- Check your water heater.
- Test all AFCI and GFCI devices.