

Protect Your Investment

PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WINTER



INSPECT YOUR HEATING SOURCE

Check your home's heating and air conditioning systems

Regularly servicing your furnace helps you catch problems before expensive breakdowns, prolong the furnace's life, and keep it running more efficiently.

Be sure that your water heater is working well

Flush your water tank & prepare insulation supplies.

Clean your chimney

A chimney sweep company will make sure the fireplace is safe to use, and they can also identify maintenance problems.

PREPARE YOUR PIPES

Outdoor:

- Make sure your sprinkler system is properly shut down for the season.
- Drain, disconnect, and store your water hoses in a dry place.
- Your outside water faucet is unprotected from the elements. Have insulation stored and ready to use for a potential freeze.

Indoor:

- Exposed pipes waste heat by cooling off the water running through them. Have insulation for any exposed pipes stored and ready to use for a potential freeze.

CHECK THE SEALING

Keep The Chill Out

Find any areas of your house that let in a draft. Usually, the culprits are windows, doors, air conditioning units, pet doors, and mail drops. For smaller gaps, seal the areas by using caulk or weather stripping.

Look For Damage

Make sure that the caulk is not cracked, and your paint is not chipped or flaking away. If it is, scrape away the bad paint. And old caulk, apply new caulk and a fresh coat of paint.

HAVE AN EMERGENCY KIT READY

- First Aid- Kit
- Extra Blankets
- Extra Batteries
- Drinking Water
- Portable Jump Starter
- Jumper Cables
- Firewood
- Battery Powered Flashlight

MAKE SURE YOUR SAFETY DETECTORS ARE WORKING

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is an odorless, invisible gas that can quickly spread through your home. At a minimum, industry experts recommend a CO alarm be installed on each level of the home -- ideally on any level with fuel burning appliances and outside of sleeping areas.

Smoke Alarms

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CLEAR THE OUTDOOR CLUTTER

Clear Dead Trees & Branches

Take a look at your trees and make sure they're still healthy, especially trees that could fall on your home or neighbor's home. If there are branches up against your house, it's a good idea to trim them away before winter, so you don't have ice-coated branches against your siding or windows.

Clean The Gutters

If gutters back up and overflow, the water running down your home's exterior can lead to damage or deterioration. If channels are blocked and the weather drops below freezing, water will turn into ice and add weight to the gutters, which could cause them to tear away from the house.



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