

Fall HOME CHECKLIST



Level 1 DO THESE IMMEDIATELY



Dig out the snow blower. Take it in for a tune up. Purchase parts before snowfall.



Lower mower deck height 1/3" at a time. Short grass makes it better able to survive the winter.



Sharpen mower blades. Buy a second set so you always have sharp blades.



Aerate. Poking holes in the lawn loosens the soil, promotes new growth & allows water to reach deep into the lawn.



Overseed. Early fall is great for topdressing and planting new grass. Complete along with aeration for great results in the spring.



Fertilize. The final act of the season is to apply winterizer.

Level 2 YOUR HOME CHECKLIST



WINTERIZE THE LAWN MOWER

After the final cut of the season, drain the fuel, remove the spark plug and secure the mower. Check your owner's manual for details on your machine.



DRAG IN THE HOSES

It is not a bad idea to schedule your irrigation shutdown now. Disconnect hoses, shutoff and drain, bring in any hose storage systems that critters can make homes in.



CHECK FOR TREE PROBLEMS

Do you have any trees growing over power lines that could snap under heavy snow? Trees growing into or touching the house make a perfect bridge for critters to access a nice warm attic.



INSTALL DRIVEWAY MARKERS

Install reflective markers on the edges of the driveway, walkway and around obstacles that will stop a snow blower in its tracks. Not a bad idea to mark out a path to the fire pit, hot tub, or bulk head. Make sure all paths are free of rocks, dog toys or other items that will break a snow blower.

INSULATE & SEAL YOUR HOME

Inspect the building's foundation, windows and doors that don't close well, holes drilled for pipe or wiring, and areas around the chimney. Eliminate drafts and easy access to a warm winter hideouts for mice.



GUTTERS AND DRAINAGE

When all leaves are down, clear out the gutters. Make sure they drain away from the house! If they drop water next to the foundation, you are asking for all kinds of problems.



SMOKE DETECTOR REPLACEMENT

Fire prevention week falls in October and is a great time to replace smoke detector batteries. The NFPA recommends* adding smoke detectors to every bedroom and level of a home.

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/fire-prevention-week>



SMART THERMOSTATS

Switching to a "smart" thermostat is an easy project and can save 10%-12%* on heating bills!

<https://nest.com/blog/2015/02/02/the-nest-learning-thermostat-saves-energy-heres-the-proof/>



Level 3

SCHEDULE A PROFESSIONAL

Some projects are too dangerous, complex, or time consuming for homeowners. Scheduling a contractor early often means discounted pricing and convenient scheduling.

- Oil Burner Tune Up
- Chimney Cleaning
- Fireplace/Pellet Stove Cleaning
- Preseason Fuel
- Buy Oil, Wood, Pellet
- Snow Removal

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