

Fall Home Maintenance Checklist

Taking good care of your home will help keep your family safe and comfortable. Plus, regular maintenance helps reduce future repair expenses and keeps your appliances and systems running efficiently. Here are the top 15 maintenance tasks you shouldn't ignore this fall:

Inspect your roof, siding and foundation.

Seal gaps with caulk or weatherstripping.

Clean gutters and downspouts.

Fix driveway cracks and loose steps or railings.

If necessary, shut off exterior faucets; drain and store hoses.

Prune trees as necessary to prevent falling limbs.

Clean and store mower, patio furniture and other summer items.

Replace batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Schedule a furnace checkup and replace filters.

Have your chimney cleaned.

Flush sediment out of your water heater.

Vacuum blinds and curtains.

Deep clean your kitchen, especially your oven and stove hood.

Clean lint from dryer vent to improve efficiency and prevent a lint fire.

Hire a professional to conduct an energy audit.