

# Fall Home Maintenance

## A Seasonal Home Maintenance Checklist



- ☐ Clean gutters and downspouts frequently throughout fall to prevent build up of leaves and other debris. Neglected gutters can lead to wood rot problems and pest infestations, not to mention ruined gutters.
- ☐ Grab a couple of tubes of color-matched exterior caulk and make a journey around your home's exterior sealing up cracks between trim and siding, around window and door frames, and where pipes and wires enter your house.
- ☐ Inspect and repair any loose or damaged window and door frames and install weather stripping or caulking to prevent drafts and to lower heating bills. Change summer screens to cool weather storm windows and doors.
- ☐ Inspect roofing. Look for leaks and missing, damaged, or loose shingles.
- ☐ Check garage door tracks and lubricate bearings.
- ☐ Call a professional chimney sweep to inspect and clean your chimney. Be sure and have them test your closed fireplace flue for a tight seal.
- ☐ In your attic ensure that ridge vents and vents at eaves are free of plants and debris. Check the bird and rodent screens for attic vents to prevent any unwanted guests.
- ☐ Consider having a heating professional check your heating system to ensure optimal performance and discover minor problems before they turn into costly major repairs. At least replace the filter in your furnace!
- ☐ Replace your batteries and test carbon monoxide, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.
- ☐ Clean air ducts to improve your heating system's efficiency, reduce household dust and provide relief to those with respiratory problems.
- ☐ Reverse your ceiling fans by adjusting to a clockwise direction to push warm air down.

