

Checklists for the Seasons

Listed below are some checklist ideas that you can use and incorporate into your routine homemaintenance plan for your house. They have been broken up into seasons.

In the Spring:

- · Check for damage to your roof
- Check all the fascia and trim 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 walks 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 pool equipment for proper operation
- Clean pool filters for the start of the summer season
- 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 and replace batteries
- 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 or behind the shower surround

In the Winter:

- Clean the gutters and downspouts
- 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

Updated and adapted by LV Home Inspections from the home maintenance book by Ben Gromicko "Now that you've had a home inspection."