

# Fall Home Maintenance



There's more than leaves to clear around your house this fall. Complete the items from this checklist to assure your home is ready for the fall breeze and Autumn leaves!

- ❑ If your water heater is warm to the touch, it's wasting energy. Wrap it with a fiberglass insulation blanket and save money.
- ❑ Protect outdoor faucets from freezing by draining the water and closing off the supply valve that supplies the outdoor spigot.
- ❑ Make sure your home's fire extinguisher is ready in case of an emergency.
- ❑ Install foam gaskets behind electrical outlets to prevent energy leaks.
- ❑ Clean out gutters. Clogged gutters send rainwater down the sides of a house and it pools near the foundation. Clean gutters direct rainwater away and protect siding and masonry from water damage.
- ❑ Check siding, masonry and the roof for cracks, leaks, damage and bird or squirrel nests. Repair before they become larger problems.
- ❑ Stay warm after the sun goes down with a portable fire pit. Also consider adding a permanent fireplace as a focal point for a large yard.
- ❑ Inspect caulk around windows and repair areas that may have become brittle, cracked, or pulled away from the surface.
- ❑ In warmer climates, fall is a great time to repair broken screens, paint your lanai or clean and seal walkways constructed from pavers.
- ❑ Fall is also an ideal time to fertilize the lawn. The roots will absorb the fertilizer and store up nutrients through the winter.