

## 10 Fall Home Maintenance Tips

By taking the time to maintain your home each season, you can keep common household problems at bay.

### **CLEAN GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS.**

Clear leaves and debris from gutters and downspouts to prevent flooding and freezing around your foundation.

### **CHECK YOUR ROOF FOR SIGNS OF DAMAGE.**

Carefully check your roof for signs of leaks or other damage. Fall is a good time to hire a professional to perform a roof inspection.

### **CHECK FURNACE FILTERS.**

Inspect your furnace and replace the furnace filters.

### **TEST SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS.**

Test all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. It's best to replace batteries annually. A good reminder is when daylight savings time ends in November.

### **PREP YOUR LAWN.**

Rake leaves, fertilize and aerate your lawn, so you are prepared when spring arrives.

### **STORE HOSES.**

Remove hoses from spigots. Drain and store them indoors, ensuring they are coiled and flat.

### **STOCK UP ON WOOD OR PELLETS.**

If you have a fireplace or woodstove, it's a good idea to stock up on wood or pellets during the fall months before winter hits.

### **SWAP WINDOW SCREENS FOR STORM WINDOWS.**

Remove screens and install storm windows. Clean and repair screens before storing them in the basement or garage.

### **CLEAN WINDOWS AND DOORS.**

Clean windows and any sliding door tracks to ensure they operate smoothly all year long.

### **DRAIN GAS FROM YARD EQUIPMENT.**

Empty gas from your lawn tools before winter arrives. Gasoline can damage rubber parts if it's left in equipment.

