

Winter Home Maintenance Checklist

- Clean humidifier two or three times during the winter season.
- Check gauge on all fire extinguishers; recharge or replace if necessary.
- Check fire escape routes, door and window locks and hardware, and lighting around outside of house; ensure family has good security habits.
- Monitor your home for excessive moisture levels – for example, condensation on your windows, which can cause significant damage over time and pose serious health problems – and take corrective action.
- Examine windows and doors for ice accumulation or cold air leaks. If found, make a note to repair or replace in the spring.
- Examine attic for frost accumulation. Check roof for ice dams or icicles. If there is excessive frost or staining of the underside of the roof, or ice dams on the roof surface.
- Check electrical cords, plugs and outlets for all indoor and outdoor seasonal lights to ensure fire safety: if worn, or plugs or cords feel warm to the touch, replace immediately.
- Check smoke, carbon monoxide and security alarms and replace batteries.
- Check fireplace damper to ensure it operates properly.
- Have fireplace, woodstove and chimney cleaned and serviced as needed.