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## HOME CARE TIPS

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### WINTER

- Clean all 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
- Check the attic for adequate ventilation
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter
- Check the water hoses on the clothes washer, refrigerator icemaker and dishwasher for cracks and bubbles
- Test all ground-fault-circuit-interrupter (GFCI) outlets
- Trim trees as needed, especially around power lines and around the house and roof line.
- Remove screens from windows and install storm windows

### SPRING

- Replace your furnace filter
- Clean the kitchen exhaust hood and air filter
- Check your electrical system
- Check all your screens to make sure they are secure
- Check all glazing at windows and glass doors to make sure they aren't cracked
- Always have a multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible
- Make sure the light bulbs in all your fixtures are the correct wattage
- Protect all your electrical appliances from power surges and lightning
- Have a professional air conditioning contractor inspect and maintain your system
- Check for damage to your roof
- Repair all cracked, broken or uneven driveways and walks to help provide a level walking surface
- Check all the fascia and trim for deterioration
- Check your water heater
- Check the shutoff valve at each plumbing fixture to make sure they function
- Remove screens from windows and install storm windows



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### SUMMER

- Check all fencing and gates for any broken parts
- Check your wood deck or concrete patio for possible deterioration
- Check all window and door locks for proper operation
- Have your roof inspected for potential leaks once every few years
- Inspect and clean dust from the covers of your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms
- Check your home for water leaks
- Check the water hoses on the clothes washer, refrigerator icemaker and dishwasher for cracks and bubbles
- Check your water heater for leaks
- Check for damaged or deteriorated siding
- Check for deteriorated exterior paint
- Check flashing for damage or if it isn't sealed properly

### FALL

- Check all window and door locks for proper operation
- Check for loose, missing or damaged roofing
- Check the condition of the chimney and vents
- Check for proper drainage around the house
- Have a heating professional check your heating system every year
- Protect your home from frozen pipes by insulating them
- Check condition of water heater
- Shut off exterior faucets and drain water. Properly install hose bibb protection.
- Fill gaps in your attic insulation
- Check for nests or blockage in ventilation openings
- Replace your furnace filter



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## HOME CARE TIPS

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### FALL, CONTINUED

- Check all window and door locks for proper operation
- 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
- 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
- Make sure all exterior windows and doors are properly caulked so there is no leaks
- Check weather stripping to make sure it is secure