

## On the Outside

#### **HOME EXTERIOR**

- Touch up paint on trim/decks/railings
- Wash exterior windows
- Check windows and doors for leaks
  - Recaulk if necessary
- Check roof for signs of damage/leaks
- Clean gutters
- Position downspouts to direct water away from your foundation, sidewalks and driveways to avoid slipping hazards

#### **FUN & GAMES**

- Gather up and store kids' summer toys & sports equipment
- Clean and inspect winter equipment such as sleds and toboggans

#### **LAWN & GARDEN**

- Drain hoses & disconnect from the hydrant
- Gather lawn sprinklers & garden tools and secure them for winter
- Stock up on ice melt before the first snow of the season
- Wash and winterize outdoor furniture
  - Store in a protected place

In winter, clogged gutters can overflow and cause ice dams on the roof, which could create leakage problems

### On the Inside

#### **SAFETY CHECK**

- Ensure your fire, smoke & carbon monoxide detectors are working
  - Replace batteries if they have not been changed within 6 months
- Review family's emergency evacuation plan
- Ensure extinguishers are charged
- Test ground fault electrical outlets

A programmable thermostat can save up to \$180 annually on heating and cooling bills if you set to run only when your family is home.

#### PREPARE FOR THE COLD

- Change filters & have heating system serviced
- Install programmable thermostat
- Drain water heaters to remove sediment (this is especially important if you have hard water)
- Check basement for cracks in the foundation
  - Have any damage fixed before winter hits full force

#### **FALL CLEANUP**

- Wash interior windows
- Schedule professional carpet cleaning while you can still open windows to speed drying
- Have a chimney sweep inspect & clean your fireplace

# In the Garage

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

- Keep gasoline in a small can for snow blower or generator
- Create a car kit for winter emergencies
  - small shovel
- energy or chocolate bars
- ice scraper
- flares
- heavy blanket/warm clothes

sand or cat litter

- flashlight
- extra cell phone charger

#### **OFF-SEASON CARE**

- Empty fuel from lawnmower & other equipment
  - Store chemicals away from the reach of children

Fuel left in gas-powered equipment over time can cause sediment buildup and clogged fuel lines.