

Turning your
house into
your dream
home

Vol. 2 #9



*Before you
sit back and
enjoy fall
you'll need
to prepare
your home
for winter..*

DOING IT RIGHT

With help from D4 Construction

Say Hello To Fall

Getting the jump on winter...

Before you sit back and enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of fall you will need to spend what amounts to a couple of week-ends worth of work to prep your home for winter.

Fall is a good time to get outside and knock off some of those important fall maintenance tasks such as:

Trim Back Trees & Hedges—

Aside from saving you leaf clean-up time it'll prevent potential damage to your house from branches that fall during stormy weather.

Clean and Repair Gutters—

You face a multitude of problems if you have dirty or clogged gutters:

1. Flooded basements
2. Damaged foundation
3. Destroyed landscaping
4. Encourage rot in wood siding

Cracked or Split House Siding

Be proactive and prevent expensive repairs when water and/or bugs get where they shouldn't be. Repair as needed.

Caulking and Weatherstripping—

Now that you have some experience with caulking walk around your home and inspect the perimeter—apply new caulking and weatherstripping where needed.

Be sure to pay special attention to areas around hose bibs, dryer vents, windows and doors.

Taking the time now will prevent heat loss and improve your home's energy efficiency.

Your Roof—

If you haven't already been up there this summer now's your last chance to make sure everything is in tip-top shape.

Pay special attention to the area around the chimney and any roof vents—check for gaps around the flashing.

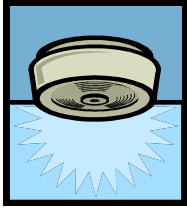
Look for damaged mortar around the chimney, especially the joints.

Attic Insulation

Your attic should be no more than five to ten degrees warmer than the great outdoors. Anything more and you risk having a condensation freeze and thaw situation which could result in a collapsed roof.

Make sure you have adequate insulation in the attic along with sufficient venting in the roof.

Doing it Right



***It's time to test
all your smoke
alarms.***

For Those Cold Days...

There are some indoor tasks as well.

- ⇒ Check all air vents to make sure they are clean and that air flow is unimpeded
- ⇒ Vacuum electric baseboard heaters or air ducts
- ⇒ Have your furnace or heating system cleaned and serviced if needed—clean or replace air filter
- ⇒ Clean bathroom and kitchen venting fans
- ⇒ Clean fridge drain pan and vacuum condenser coil
- ⇒ Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ⇒ Check fire extinguisher
- ⇒ Clean faucet aerators and showerheads
- ⇒ Examine caulk and grout in tub/shower
- ⇒ Clean dishwasher

And You're Done

By setting aside a few weekends now you'll be saving yourself considerable hassle later on. Once you've finished your fall maintenance you can sit back—relax and enjoy the falling leaves, crisp air and jack-o-lanterns—knowing you and your home are prepared to face anything winter has to throw at you.

Upcoming Topics

- ⇒ Winter Maintenance
- ⇒ Tips for Cleaning the Outside
- ⇒ Are You Ready for Christmas

For more information:

If you are interested in protecting the value of your home, turning your house into your dream home or simply have remodeling questions or needs - call Mike Spruyt at 572-4812

The D₄ Guarantee



D₁ – Your job will be done for the price specified—there are no surprises or hidden costs.

D₂ – Your job will be completed the way you want it done.

D₃ – If you aren't satisfied with the finished product we'll fix it for free.

D₄ – All work comes with a 2-year guarantee on workmanship