

SPRING CHECKLIST

Landscaping

Cut back and trim all vegetation and overgrown bushes. Trim leaves and limbs that touch your exterior walls as they can cut into your home's paint.

Clean Gutters & Downspouts

Clogged gutters during rainstorms can cause water to pool and damage your roof or siding.

■ Make Exterior Repairs

Take a walk around your property, looking for signs of damage to the roof, siding and foundation.

□ Sprinklers

Check your lawn sprinkler system for leaky valves, exposed lines, and improperly working sprinkler heads.

Exterior Caulking

Inspect caulking and replace if deteriorating. Scrape out all of the eroding caulk and recaulk if needed.

□ Roof

Minnesota winters can be rough. Check the condition of your roof surface flashing, eaves and soffits. Perform a thorough cleaning. Check flashings around all surface projections and sidewalls.

■ Window & Door Screens

Clean screening and check for holes. Patch holes or replace the screen. Replace broken, worn or missing hardware. Tighten and lubricate door hinges and closers.

Check Safety Devices

Test smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors; replace batteries. Check expiration date of your fire extinguisher and replace if needed.

Decks & Porches

Check all decks, patios, porches, stairs and railings for loose boards and deterioration. If the stain doesn't look like it should or water has turned some of the wood dark grey, treat your deck or fence.

Clean Dryer Vents

Lint buildup in dryer vents can make your dryer work less efficiently and even cause a fire. You can hire a duct cleaning specialist to clean the vents if needed.

Air Conditioning System Maintenance

Clean unit, check the belt tension and adjust if needed. Replace a crack or worn belt. Schedule an annual system check with an HVAC professional.