



# FALL/WINTER PREP FOR YOUR HOME & YARD

FROM PACKING UP THE PATIO FURNITURE AND CLOSING THE POOL TO TUNING UP THE SNOW BLOWER – THESE COMPREHENSIVE TIPS WILL MAKE SURE YOUR HOME AND YARD ARE READY FOR THE WINTER, WATER, SNOW AND ICE.

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- ✓ Ensure that bushes, trees, large shrubs or vegetation are trimmed well back. Snow and ice can cause branches to break off and damage your residence or out-buildings.
- ✓ Cover shrubs and bushes in your garden that are susceptible to the cold and frost so they are not killed in the winter.
- ✓ Ensure that you have a good supply of ice-melt and a functional shovel – snow can come without warning.
- ✓ Tune up and service your snow-blower and have a supply of fresh gasoline on hand.
- ✓ Turn off the water to outside hoses and water sources and drain the pipe/line to the outside faucets.
  - Make sure that you drain water from hoses and store them in a warm place for the winter so that you can use them again next year.
- ✓ Call your heating/cooling service provider to get a check-up done on your furnace or heating system prior to the cold weather coming.
- ✓ Cover your A/C unit and power it off at the source so it is ready for next summer.
- ✓ Call your pool provider (if you have one) to do a professional closing of your pool.
  - Make sure that the equipment is serviced and drained properly.
  - Follow your local by-laws with regards to draining your pool onto the street or into the sewers in your neighborhood. You want to be a good neighbor and make sure you don't cause a flood for anyone on your street.
- ✓ Put away all outdoor patio furniture and cushions and tables – they can be damaged or can damage your residence or buildings in a windstorm.
  - Cover larger items with a secure cover/tarp if they are not being moved inside.
- ✓ Ensure that your eaves and downspouts are clear and draining away from your residence/buildings. Do not get up on a ladder or a roof if you are not comfortable doing so – when in doubt hire a professional.
- ✓ Walk around your property examining your roof to make sure no shingles or roof tiles are missing/damaged.