



Realtor Robin Jones

Robin Talks Real Estate

A Seasonal Check-Up for Your Home

September is here and it's time to give your home a seasonal once-over.

Keep a documented history of your home (include photos or video). It will be an asset when you sell, helping prospective buyers see evidence of the repairs you've made over the years.

Here are some projects you can do yourself.

Gutters & spouts. Wear gloves because animals or insects can hide in gutters. Then scoop out leaves and debris. Finally, flush downspouts with the garden hose.

Roof. Look for signs of deterioration like loose shingles, rotting wood, etc. Trim branches that are hanging over your roof. If the branches are near power lines, call a professional tree-trimming company.

Windows & doors. Inspect and repair loose or damaged windows or door frames. Install weather stripping around windows and doors to reduce drafts and heating costs. If you find moisture on walls or dry-rot, call a specialist.

Heating system. Replace the filter in your furnace. Install a carbon-monoxide detector near appliances that burn fossil fuel, but be sure it's in an area where you can hear the alarm.

Smoke detector. Smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years, but batteries should be replaced every six months.

Secure cracks. Before creepy critters seek shelter from the cold, inspect your home and garage for cracks or holes where they could enter and seal them off. If you think animals or insects have already settled in, call an exterminator.

Remember, a little preventative maintenance now is much less expensive than repairs later.

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