

STONEHOLLOW, INC.

FINE HOME INSPECTIONS & TESTING
FORENSIC HOME DIAGNOSTICS • ENERGY AUDITS
CONSULTING SERVICES / INFRARED INSPECTIONS
154 OVERBROOK DRIVE • STAMFORD, CT 06906

Office/Service (203) 356-9611
Fax (203) 975-7799
Home Office (203) 327-6824
E-Mail steve@stonehollow.com
Web: www.stonehollow.com
Special Client #: (203) 327-6824

*Hear us Saturday mornings 8-9 AM on
WSTC 1400 AM and WNLK 1350 AM*

Stonehollow's Fall Maintenance & Honey Do List:

Kitchen:

Temperature of the water at the sink- No higher than 125 F

Deodorize the waste disposal- Lemons

Check for leaks under the sink, especially the sprayer hose, the wand itself, and dishwasher lines.

Upgrade the outlets by the sink with GFCI safety outlets.

Clean the filters in your cooktop hood. Degrease the hood surfaces.

Clean that oven- its cool out, enjoy the heat !

Vacuum /Clean the drip tray under the fridge.

Bathrooms:

Disinfect the tile, clean the grout, clean hidden surfaces.

Lower the fan covers on bath vent fans, and vacuum.

Lubricate shower door wheels (clean & check them).

Caulk & silicone the tile.

Check for loose tiles.

Feel around the toilet for signs of leakage.

See if the toilet wobbles, or is loose.

Look for water stains below all the fixtures

Look under sink for dangerous or poisonous items, move them to higher, out of reach, areas.

Fireplaces:

Look to see if the dampers are open. Look for signs of soot and creosote.

Look up the chimney- look for nesting materials, debris, and any signs of blockage. Install chimney caps, screens, and glass doors.

Make sure combustibles are moved away from the fireplace areas and wood stoves.

Change batteries in the smoke detectors and test co and other detectors in the house.

While you're at it, have a fire drill and discuss where you will meet outside in case of a fire.

Heating Systems:

Clean boilers & furnaces before heating season begins. All heating systems need checking annually.

Change furnace filters, clean dehumidifiers and have the service company check all safety components.

Make sure chimneys and smoke pipes on water heaters and furnaces are screwed together and exhaust gases flow up the chimney, and not into the house.

Vacuum the fins on the baseboard radiators

Exterior:

Shut off and drain the outside hose faucets.

Remove the screens and install the storm windows and storm doors.

If you have irrigation systems , freeze prone plumbing, decorative ponds, pools, and fountains... get them properly winterized.

Put away the lawn furniture, and outside umbrellas and tables.

Clean gutters & leaders and make sure the water is running away from the foundation and not directed onto walks and driveways.

Fix loose stair treads and handrails.

Think about buying a bag or two of ice melt. Find the car scrapers before you need them.

Put the pool and spa chemicals away in cool dry places... away from metal and heating systems.

Check outdoor lighting & replace dead bulbs- especially with Halloween coming.

Time to organize the shed and store away the summer tools- a light coat of oil on saws and hand tools can reduce rust and moisture damages.

Check your chimney and exterior mortar on masonry work for damage.

Check your roof flashings and details for obvious damages, call for help if found.

Clean skylights and check for cracks, sealant needs, and leak potential.

Clean window glass & storm panels.

Check entry doors for weatherstripping, bottom of door sweeps, and any gaps, damages, or drafts.

Look at phone lines & cable lines outside. Make sure they are securely fastened to the house. Prune trees and shrubs near them.

Turn off and cover A/C outdoor units (not heat pumps.)

Add window well domes on basement windows that are close to grade.

Attics:

Check the attic for leaks. Leave venting open, but look to see how much insulation you have and consider more if you have less than 9".

Make an insulating box for above fans and pull down stairs.

Tighten the screws & nuts on the pull down stairs.

Make sure screening is intact on vents into attic.

Laundry:

Clean lint on dryer vent line and upgrade plastic lines to metal.

Check washer hoses for soft spots and leaks. Upgrade old hoses.

Turn off the washer when not in use.

Run a little water into laundry sinks and rarely used sinks to avoid odors.

Odds & Ends:

If you have a well with water treatment equipment make sure the timers have the correct time and that your chemicals are correctly added.

Test garage door openers and safety devices.

Make sure your fire extinguishers are charged, and up to date.

Get rid of old carbon tetrachloride (antique, brass and glass fire extinguishers).

Close up any openings into the attic or basement that could allow in rodents.

Clean out debris in garage and stairwell drains

Check sump pumps and make sure the pumps work.

Stock up on canned goods, water and batteries.

Buy some good lanterns or flashlights...don't use candles in power outages.

Prepare an important number list.

Remember for safety... if you are not sure how to do something, or if it is beyond your scope or capability...call in an expert.

A Home Wellness inspection can tell you how your home is doing and help you to set up a maintenance priority list and maintenance schedule. Call us for a quote.

An Infrared survey can spot energy and water leaks saving you lots of money.

Stonehollow, Inc. Fine Home Inspections.....1-800- 356-9611

All Full Home Inspections follow the A.S.H.I.[®] Standards of Practice, and The Code of Ethics of The American Society of Home Inspectors[®]