

Tips for Winterizing your Home

As cold weather approaches, it is important to take a few preventative measures to protect your home through the chilly months. Winterizing is generally a task that can be done inexpensively, but will end up saving you money on your energy bills throughout the winter. In fact, many of these tasks can be done by YOU!

Be Prepared

- ✓ Buy a snow shovel in the fall so you'll have it before winter weather hits
- ✓ Keep extra water and canned food in storage just in case

Gutters & Downspouts

- ✓ Examine doors and windows for gaps where warm air can escape
- ✓ Caulk or apply weather-stripping around problem draft areas
- ✓ Install double-paned windows to increase energy efficiency

Heating System

- ✓ Replace the filter in your furnace
- ✓ Give your heating system a test run so you know it will work properly when you need it
- ✓ Hire a heating/cooling expert to check your furnace's efficiency

Roofing, Chimneys & Decks

- ✓ Have a contractor look for damaged roof shingles and loose gutters
- ✓ Make sure chimneys and woodstoves are cleaned early in the season
- ✓ Give you deck a fresh coat of sealer to protect it from the winter elements