

Your Home Maintenance Checklist For Spring



Keep your home safe and comfortable inside and out with a few simple to-dos. Visit my.aarpfoundation.org for more helpful information, including programs that can help when you need it most.

Prepare your yard for the season <i>Do a spring clean-up to remove debris, rake leaves, and apply mulch to garden beds</i>
Replace storm windows and doors <i>Patch any holes in the screens or replace with new screens</i>
Make a plan for lawn mowing <i>Tune-up your lawn mower or hire someone to mow for you regularly through the summer</i>
Inspect your windows and doors <i>Check for any gaps in the seals and replace caulk as needed</i>
Repair cracked or peeling paint <i>If any of your trim or siding has begun to rot, replace and repaint it to prevent more damages</i>
Check your attic and basement for mold or pests <i>Call a professional if you see mold (typically black or gray stains) or tunneling in any wood framing, which could indicate termites</i>
Clean your deck and fence <i>Use a power washer to remove dirt – make sure your gate latch is working properly, if you have one</i>
Replace HVAC air filters <i>If you have an air conditioning unit, change the filter, check hose connections for leaks, and make sure the drain pans are draining freely – consider scheduling a tune-up to keep it running efficiently</i>
Inspect under eaves and gutter downspouts <i>Look for water stains and if you find them, have your gutters cleaned and repaired</i>
Check your roof for damage from the ground <i>Shingles in your yard or visible “eyebrow” shingles that pop up from the roofline are signs you may need repairs – call a professional if you notice either</i>
Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors <i>Be sure to check every room in your house and replace the batteries</i>

Other Resources to Ease Your Budget

- ✓ **Time to De-Winterize.** Remove any insulation off windows and reattach hoses or pipes you disconnected from outdoor water lines. Turn your water back on if you shut it off. If you have one, check to make sure your sump pump is functioning and there isn't any dampness or water pooling in your basement.
- ✓ **Maximize Your Tax Return.** You may be surprised to learn that many states offer some sort of property tax relief program, where homeowners receive money back on their property taxes in the form of tax credits and refunds. Learn more [here](#).
- ✓ **Save Money.** With household expenses going up, now may be the time to [see how you can save](#) on having a smartphone.

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