

# **SPRING** HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS

As the warmth of spring approaches, it's easy to forget the damage that harsh winter weather may have done to your house. A bit of spring maintenance now can prevent costly repair bills later. Review these 10 tips for spring maintenance to avoid any unwelcome surprises.

### Inspect your roof.

Repair any damage caused by snow or ice to prevent leaks during spring storms.

#### Clean your gutters.

Regularly check and clear debris from your gutters and downspouts. This will prevent water from over flowing and reduce the risk of water damage.

### Check your smoke detector.

Change the batteries in your smoke detector and test every smoke detector to ensure it's working properly.

### Stop leaks.

Check the seals around your windows and doors for cracking or hardening caulk.

### Beware of trees.

Visually inspect trees for damage or rot. Remove dead or unhealthy trees, which could fall in heavy winds.

## Clean the air conditioner.

Clean or replace your heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) filters. A dirty filter will force your system to work harder, which can be costly and inefficient.

### Inspect wires.

Check for frayed wires, loose outlets or cracked plugs. Make sure no cords or outlets are overloaded.

### Prevent water damage.

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Check connecting pipes and hoses on all water appliances (e.g., dishwashers, laundry, sinks and toilets) for cracks, leaks or dampness.

### **Repair cracks**

Create a safer walking and driving area by fixing cracks in the driveway and sidewalk.

### Touch up the lawn mower.

Change the oil on your lawn mower and sharpen the blades.

## Contact Horst Insurance for more information on seasonal home maintenance.