HAPPY HOMES
CUSTOM SOLUTIONS
MAINTAIN | RENOVATE | MANAGE | RECORD

Fall Home Maintenance

Get ahead of the next freeze.

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER

Fall is the last easy window before cold weather makes everything harder and more expensive to fix. Everything here is about getting ahead of the first freeze.

Interior

- ☐ Have the furnace or heat pump serviced before you need it.
  Appointments book up fast once it turns cold.
- ☐ Replace smoke and CO detector batteries.
  The twice-a-year habit: spring forward, fall back.
- ☐ Check your water heater.
  If the tank is warm to the touch, an insulation blanket pays for itself in a season.
- ☐ Install foam gaskets behind exterior-wall outlet and switch plates.
  An easy, cheap fix for drafts.
- ☐ Reverse ceiling fans to clockwise, low speed, to push warm air back down.

Exterior

- ☐ Clean gutters once the leaves are mostly down, not before.
  Clogged gutters send water down the siding and toward the foundation all winter long.
- ☐ Drain and shut off outdoor spigots before the first freeze warning.
- ☐ Inspect roof, siding, and masonry for cracks, gaps, or animal nests.
  Small repairs now beat storm-driven ones in January.
- ☐ Seal gaps around the foundation and exterior penetrations.
  Rodents go looking for a way in as it cools off.
- ☐ Check the fire extinguisher's gauge and expiration date.

Fall is when every Happy Homes Care member gets a seasonal visit, plus their yearly Hometrue Record review: exterior faucet winterization, filter changes, and a general walkthrough, logged straight into your Hometrue Record.