

# HOW TO...Help avoid costly home repairs & dangerous accidents



## PLUMBING



Make sure essential appliances like ones below are working and being checked regularly. Do red flags like broken parts, leaks, clogs, bad smells, etc. exist?

- Septic tank
- Toilets
- Showers/tubs
- Sinks
- Hose bibbs
- Storm drains
- Hot water tank
- Gas lines
- Thermostat
- Dishwasher
- Washer/dryer
- Furnace
- Window wells
- Radiator
- Garbage disposal
- Water softener
- Boiler
- Air filters
- Humidifier

## VACATION PREP



Before leaving your house, take precautions to help avoid appliance breakage and robberies while you are away. Some examples include:

- Turn off water supply
- Turn off gas line
- Clean refrigerator
- Adjust thermostat
- Unplug electronics
- Lock doors and windows
- Engage alarm
- Don't leave a hide-a-key
- Leave a key with trusted family member/friend
- Put a hold on mail (especially online orders)
- Review home/auto insurance policies

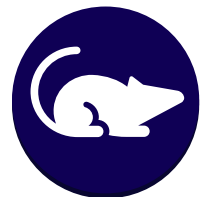
## FIRE SAFETY



Broken/dirty appliances can cause a fire, and working alarms help signal issues. Make sure items like below are routinely maintained.

- Smoke alarms
- Carbon monoxide alarms
- Fire extinguishers
- Gutters
- Chimney
- Oil furnace
- Range hood filter
- Oven
- Dryer vent
- Refrigerator coils
- Ceiling fans

## PESTS



What can you do to help prevent pests from being attracted to your home and getting into places they shouldn't be? Some great first steps include:

- Regular cleaning of all rooms
- Screens on your windows and doors
- Adequate window and door seals
- Seal wood (termites)
- Have a regular garbage service (rats, racoons, etc.)
- Maintain healthy room moisture and temperature (flies, spiders, mice, etc.)
- Routine checks for bee nests (parked cars, garages, attics, porches, etc.)

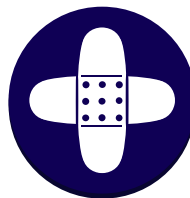
## SUPPLIES



Expect the unexpected. Have items on hand like those below that would help you in situations like being snowed in, losing power, having extreme weather conditions, etc.

- Snow shovel
- Snow salt
- Batteries
- Portable battery banks
- Flashlights
- Fans and air conditioners
- Candles
- Lighters and matches
- Food backup

## INJURY HAZARDS



Take the necessary precautions to prevent common hazards that lead to injury, such as avoiding:

- Clutter
- Yard holes (i.e. dog holes)
- Driveway and sidewalk cracks
- Icy driveways and sidewalks
- Untreated decks
- Lose stair railings and floorboards
- Hot items left unattended or within reach of children
- Oven mitts with holes.
- Not setting a timer and burning food.

This guide is perfect for your fridge. You can also add it to your phone calendar before the start and end of each season. Print this infographic and get more information here:

[www.mosaicia.com/blog/home-maintenance-tips](http://www.mosaicia.com/blog/home-maintenance-tips)

Information for this item provided by: Progressive Insurance (Life Lanes), Safeco Insurance, Esurance, Allstate, Liberty Mutual, Lula Smarter Home Services, Forbes, Northwest Roof Maintenance, Stanford Children's Health, National Safety Council, ASecureLife, HomeWarrantyReviews.com, DoughRoller, and Cornerstone Confessions.

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