

**October
2023**

Housing Sector

**Tips &
Tricks**

Home Maintenance Checklist:

Improvement Advice

- Organize the junk drawer
- Be fire ready— check your extinguisher and have escape plan
- Insulate outdoor pipes
- Cover and store outdoor furniture
- Winterize perennials and clean out annuals
- Mulch leaves when you mow for the last time
- Deep clean the bathroom to prevent mold
- Seal outdoor surfaces like porch & stairs
- Stow away the hose
- Wash the curtains, dust the blinds, remove the screen & wash the windows
- Aerate & feed your lawn
- Inspect the gutters and downspouts
- Inspect home for entry ways for critters to get in and repair to keep them out.
- Deep clean the carpets
- Trim any low hanging tree branches or bushes
- Clean out the dryer vent
- Declutter and organize the garage or shed
- Check for drafts
- Cover AC Unit
- Vacuum bathroom fan
- Clean drains for sinks, tubs, showers, and dishwashers
- Stock up on sidewalk salt & ice melt
- Repair or replace caulking around windows, doors & mechanicals
- Turn off AC breaker



MONTHLY CHECKLIST:

- Clean or replace the filter to the furnace and/or HRV
- Clean faucets and showerheads from mineral buildup
- Inspect all drains for debris; unclog if necessary
- Test smoke alarms
- Vacuum heat registers and heat vents
- Check indoor & outdoor air vents are not blocked

Natural Pest Control

- Coffee grinds for garden bugs
- Banana peels for aphids
- Apple cider vinegar for fruit flies
- Cornmeal for ants
- White vinegar for ants trail & spiders
- Rosemary or sage for mosquitoes
- Eucalyptus, lavender, clove or peppermint oils for dust mites
- Basil for flies
- Onions for spiders
- Cloves for ladybugs
- Peppermint oil for mice
- Bay leaves for flies, roaches & ants
- Chives for Japanese beetles, carrot flies, aphids, mites & rabbits
- Dill for spider mites, squash bugs, and aphids
- Chrysanthemums mites, beetles, ants, bed bugs, roaches & fleas
- Citronella oil & witch hazel spray for small bugs
- Fresh or dried herbs: mint, basil, rosemary, marigolds & lavender for critters
- Mint for mosquitoes



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