GREATER DAYTON CONSTRUCTION GROUP

WINTERIZING YOUR HOME

HOSE BIBBS

Water damage can happen at any time, most frequently during the cold weather months. Don't forget to disconnect the garden hose from the outside faucet, and shut the water off to the hose bibb inside the house (if accessible). Leaving hoses connected through the winter can create an unexpected water damage repair in the spring.

GUTTERS

Clean gutters and downspouts are essential during the winter months. Taking the time to remove leaves and twigs during your fall clean-up will reduce the possibility of ice and snow damage.

FURNACE FILTERS

A regular furnace filter works ***overtime*** during the winter and should be changed or cleaned regularly. A free flow of air through a clean filter will allow your furnace to run more efficiently.

DRYER VENTS

As the snow piles up, be sure to check the exterior dryer vent. Keep the area around the vent clear to allow for proper exhaust. It is also very important to clean out the lint from the dryer hose bi-weekly, and the lint filter on the dryer with every load.

CARBON MONOXIDE

Carbon monoxide is odorless and can be deadly. Install a quality carbon monoxide detector in your home to protect your family and pets. Read and fallow the installation instructions carefully.

SMOKE DETECTORS

The average life span of a hard-wired smoke detector is 10 years. Replace old smoke heads with battery backup units and don't forget to replace the batteries twice a year.

FIREPLACES & CHIMNEYS

Having your chimney and fireplace inspected before the winter season should be item number one on your "to-do" list. Cracked flue tile, firebrick and mortar joints can cause a hidden fire within the wall framing. The build up of creosote is the main cause of chimney fires and can be removed by a certified chimney sweep. Wildlife can also affect a chimney's air flow and draw. Have a licensed exterminator inspect your chimney for unwanted guests.

ICE DAMMING

The build up of ice and snow on your roof and along the gutter line can cause significant water damage to the structure and interior of your home. The two major reasons ice damming occurs is a lack of proper attic ventilation and insulation. Hot air from within your home will rise up and into the attic if your insulation is less than R30. If the snow on your roof melts before your neighbors', you need additional insulation. Remember, it is never a good idea to get on a snow covered roof. Call a professional for advice and assistance.