The Homeowner's Guide to Preparing for Winter

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6 Ways to Prepare Your Utah Home for Winter

Winter will be here before you know it. <u>Is your home properly prepared</u> for falling temperatures, <u>snow</u>, and sleet? *A little preventative maintenance now will help ensure your home can* <u>withstand both the harsh winter weather</u> and the spring thaw. Here are six tips to help you get started.

1. Put Away Your Summer Equipment

Mow your lawn one last time and give your shrubs a thorough trimming, then do some quick maintenance before putting your equipment away for the season. Clean off any grass clumps or other debris and empty the gas out of your lawnmower, trimmer, and other equipment. Empty out your pressure washer and run some antifreeze through it. Putting this effort in now will ensure all of your tools are in great shape when you're ready to use them again.

2. Drain Your Outdoor Faucets

If water freezes inside your outdoor faucets, the pipes can crack a cause your basement to flood. *To prevent this, simply shut off the water valve, then go outside and drain the pipe*. You don't need to worry about getting every drop out. As long as most of the water is drained from the pipe, anything remaining will have enough room to expand without doing any serious damage. *When spring rolls around, turn the water valve back on and you'll be good to go*.

3. Inspect and Repair Your Roof

Both <u>residential</u> and <u>commercial</u> buildings should have an annual <u>roof inspection</u> <u>prior to the</u> <u>winter months</u>. A professional roofing contractor can <u>inspect your flashing</u>, look for signs of damage like <u>roof rot</u>, and make any necessary repairs. Proactively taking care of your roof in the fall can help minimize winter damage from ice and snow.

4. Check Your Safety Equipment

Staying warm in the winter often means using your fireplace or cranking up the furnace. Keep your family safe by checking to make sure your **smoke alarms are working properly** and that you have at least a couple of **fire extinguishers in your home**. If you don't already **have carbon monoxide detectors in your home**, consider purchasing some.

5. Inspect Your HVAC System

Before it gets too cold, thoroughly inspect your heating and air conditioning system and replace your filters. Proper maintenance is key to improving the longevity of your system. Fix any problems right away so you can have the peace of mind in knowing your heat will work when you need it most.

6. Clear Out Your Gutters

When the spring thaw comes, the runoff from melted snow needs someplace to go. <u>If your gutters are full of debris</u> or in disrepair, water will run down the front of your home, potentially causing damage. <u>To prevent this</u>, schedule a professional <u>gutter inspection and cleaning</u> before the snowflakes start to fall.

Let Vertex Roofing Contractors Help with Your Winter Preparations in SLC, Utah

Our professional Salt Lake City, Utah roofing contractors at Vertex Roofing are experts when it comes to preparing your home for the Utah winter. We have over 15 years of experience working with homeowners and businesses in the Salt Lake City area and your satisfaction is our highest priority. Contact us today to learn how we can help you with all of your inspection, maintenance, and replacement needs.