

# Prepare Your Home for Cooler Days Ahead

After the relaxation of the summer months, it's time to prepare your home for the cooler days ahead. Please take a moment to review this important fall maintenance checklist.

***Have your furnace cleaned*** and inspected by a qualified technician annually.

***Keep all flammable materials***, including all lawn and power equipment, away from water heaters and wiring in the basement, utility rooms and garage.

***Insulate exposed water pipes*** in areas exposed to cold temperatures and turn up the thermostat during extra cold periods.

***Check for damage*** to your roof and clean gutters and downspouts to keep debris from accumulating. This is especially important during the fall season to keep leaves from building up in gutters.

***Check and repair the caulking*** around doors and windows that show signs of deterioration.

***Check caulking around showers***, bathtubs, sinks and toilet base, and make repairs as needed.

***Have your chimney cleaned*** and maintained annually by a professional.

***Clean and/or replace your furnace filter.***

***Clean the clothes dryer exhaust duct*** and space under the dryer. Remove all lint, dust, and pieces of material or cloth.

***Check your electrical outlets*** for potential fire hazards such as frayed wires or loose fitting plugs. Be sure not to overload electrical outlets, fuse boxes, extension cords.

***Keep a multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible*** that is filled and ready for operation.

***Inspect your smoke detectors.*** Make sure that there is one on each floor of your home. Test them and change the battery every three months or as needed.

**We're here to help when it matters most. Please call the Grayson Thomas Agency at 864-289-9898, if you have any questions regarding your policy and coverages.**