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## 10 Must Do Spring Cleaning Items for Homeowners



Spring has arrived and we all know that means it's time to get our spring cleaning checklist out. While many people are sure to focus in on hard to reach cleaning spots inside and decluttering storage spaces, taking care of some routine maintenance in exterior areas around your home that may have been affected by winter weather can help identify problem spots and get you prepared for the next rotation of seasons. As highlighted by Property Casualty 360, here are ten things you should make sure to evaluate and repair, if necessary.

### 1. Roof

Winter weather, from snow and wind to drastic temperature changes, can do a number on your roof. Be sure to have your roof inspected especially if there are any easily visible problem spots because a deeper issue could be hiding under the surface.

### 2. Ceiling Stains

Ceiling stains from a leaky roof are an unpleasant site and a health hazard. Once you ensure the source of the leak is fixed, be sure to dry the area out and use a sealer to contain any possible contaminants and prevent the growth of mold or mildew.

### 3. Windows and Doors

When checking your windows and doors, be on the lookout for bent or broken hinges, frames, edges, weathering, and screens. You may be able to repair the damage or you may need to replace the items. Regardless, getting your windows and doors in prime condition will help keep your home sealed from the weather.

#### **4. Driveway**

Just as the elements of winter weather can wreak havoc on the roads around town, they may cause damage to your driveway. Check for cracks or holes in your pavement and consider resealing or repaving your driveway if necessary.

#### **5. Deck**

To keep your deck looking good and, more importantly, safe, you should reseal your deck every few years.

#### **6. Fences**

Check all your fencing and be sure to replace or repair any problem spots, such as loose, rotten, or worn portions.

#### **7. Gutters and Downspouts**

Check your gutters and downspouts for leaves and other debris. Clear any obstructions or call a professional to help with the cleanup.

#### **8. Ice Dams**

You may want a professional to handle this one, as these icy conditions can be dangerous, but if you want to try to get rid of ice dams yourself, Property Casualty 360 says "first remove snow with a long-handled aluminum roof rake. Then fill a pair of pantyhose with calcium chloride ice-melter and hang it from your roof so it crosses the ice dam and hangs off the gutter."

#### **9. Leak Prone Spots**

Due to temperature fluctuations, some spots on your home can easily crack. Check these areas, such as windows, siding, and walls and apply caulking to prevent leaks.

#### **10. Faucets and Hoses**

Turn any faucets and hoses on to check if the water is running through them properly. According to Property Casualty 360, "if you can stop the flow with your thumb, the water pressure may be too low and a pipe inside your home may need to be fixed."

Spring is a time of rejuvenation and after standing up to winter all season long, your house needs a little extra love. Be sure to call to review your insurance coverage, as well. Spring cleaning your policies is just as essential.

Sourced From:

*Property Casualty 360, ["10 Ways to Help Your Home Recover From Winter,"](#) by Jayleen R. Heft*