WINTER PREP CHECKLIST

8 Ways to Protect Your Home



Winter can be a harsh season, especially if you live in an area with extreme weather conditions. Here is a checklist of 7 things you can do to prepare for winter:

Establish an Emergency Plan:
Create a list of preferred home service providers, vendors, and emergency contacts before a storm arrives, because when pipes burst or the power lines come down, every second counts.

Hire a House Sitter:
If you will be away from your home for a prolonged period, the best way to make sure your house is safe and protected is to hire a trusted house sitter.

Monitor Interior Temperature:
Keep the interior temperature of your home at a minimum of 60 degrees Fahrenheit, especially if you are going to be away for an extended period of time.

Automatic Water Shut-Offs:
A burst pipe can be a homeowner's worst nightmare. Installing a whole-house automatic water shut-off system could prevent costly water damage. You may also qualify for a discount on your homeowners insurance policy.

Maintain Attic Conditions:
Make sure that it is properly insulated and ventilated, and that all pipes and their exposed surfaces are well insulated as well.

Conduct an Energy Audit:
An energy audit of your home is a simple way to identify any issues that could put your plumbing at risk, including insulation gaps, air leakage, duct leakage, and moisture issues.

Install Smart Home Technology:
Installing a smart home system can help you keep an eye on things in case you are away during a severe weather event.

Prevent Ice Dams:
Install a heated gutter system, or use a roof rake or professional snow removal service during periods of heavy snowfall.

Prepare for Winter with Confidence

Contact your Starkweather & Shepley advisor for a coverage check-up to help ensure you're prepared before the next winter storm.

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