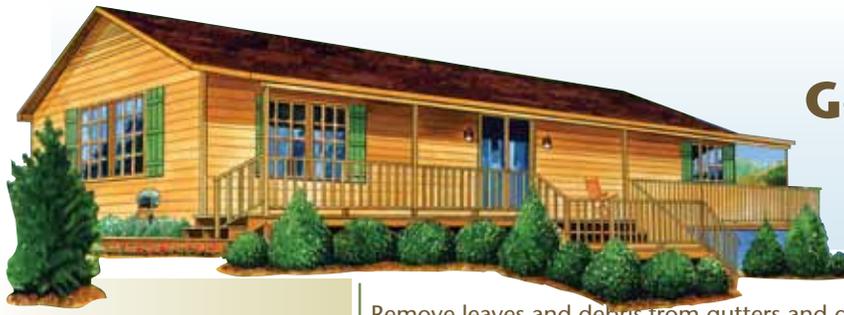


SPRING HOME MAINTENANCE



Get your home in shape this Spring!

GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS

Remove leaves and debris from gutters and downspouts. Reattach gutters that have pulled away from the house. Run a hose on the roof and check for proper drainage. If there are any leaks, dry the area and use caulking or epoxy to seal the leak.

SIDING

Clean siding with a pressure washer to keep mold from growing. Check all wood surfaces for weathering and paint failure. If wood is showing through, sand the immediate area and apply a primer coat before painting. If paint is peeling, scrape loose paint and sand smooth before painting.

FOUNDATION

Check foundation walls, floors, concrete and masonry for cracking, heaving, or deterioration. If a significant number of bricks are losing their mortar, call a professional. If you can slide a nickel into a crack in your concrete floor, slab or foundation, call a professional immediately.

ROOF

Inspect roof surface flashing, eaves and soffits. Check flashings around all surface projections and sidewalls.

DECKS AND PORCHES

Check all decks, patios, porches, stairs and railings for loose boards and deterioration. Open decks and wood fences need to be treated every four to six years, depending on how much exposure they get to sun and rain. If the stain doesn't look like it should, or water has turned some of the wood a dark gray, hire a professional to treat your deck and fence.

LANDSCAPE

Trim and cut back all vegetation and overgrown bushes that are touching structures. Limbs and leaves can cut into your home's paint, requiring that side of the house to be repainted. A little trimming can save a lot of money and time.

AIR CONDITIONER

Clean unit, check belt tension and adjust if needed. Replace cracked or worn belt.

WINDOW & DOOR SCREENS

Clean screens and check for holes. Patch any holes or replace the screen. Save bad screens to patch holes with the next year. Tighten any loose or damaged frames and repaint. Look for broken, worn or missing hardware and repair or replace. Tighten and lubricate door hinges and closers.

WINDOW SILLS, DOOR SILLS & THRESHOLDS

Fill cracks, caulk edges, repaint or replace if necessary.

HOT WATER HEATER

Lubricate circulating pump and motor.

EXTERIOR CAULKING

Inspect caulking and replace if deteriorating. Scrape out eroding caulk and re-caulk area.

CRACKED PAVEMENT

Fill cracks in the pavement before weeds begin to grow. Home centers sell patching materials and fillers designed for asphalt and concrete surfaces. However if the surfaces have ruptured due to frost heaving, you may need to hire a professional to pour or pave a new surface over stabilized soil.

WEAKENED TREES

Inspect trees for broken branches. If the limb is high up, hire a licensed arborist.

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Safety Is Our #1 Goal!