

# SPRING CHECKLIST

## ***Inside the house***

- Have the AC checked.
- Wash windows.
- Check the sump pump to make sure it's operating properly.
- Clean air purifier and change the filter. Consider having your ducts professionally cleaned.
- Take steps to prevent water from getting in your basement. Check out: <http://www.kiplinger.com/article/real-estate/T029-C000-S002-how-not-to-get-soaked.html>
- Have your chimney swept and inspected. This will help ensure that the chimney caps are in place and everything is working properly. For more energy savings, ask the chimney sweep about a draft stopper for the flue.
- Check doors and windows for gaps that need to be filled. This will help keep the cool air of the AC inside and, if you're lucky, you won't have to do this task again in the fall!
- Do a safety check.
  - Make sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working.
  - Check outlets, fuse boxes, and power cords to make sure they are not overloaded.
  - Restock your storm/emergency kit.

## ***Family***

- Work together to plan and plant a vegetable garden.
- Check wardrobes, jackets, and shoes for spring and summer
- As you store winter gear make note of what you need for next season. If possible, shop for those items now while they are on clearance!

## ***Spring Cleaning***

- Dust everything – shelves, window casing, cabinets, ceiling fans, chair rails.
- Wash or dry clean curtains. If you did this in the fall, a good vacuuming should do it.
- Wash bedding and vacuum mattresses.
- Clean blinds.
- Clean carpets.
- Use a mild detergent and water to wash kitchen cabinets, backsplashes, and walls. You can do the same in the bathroom.

## ***Outside the house***

- Check your roof for any damage.
- Clean gutters and downspouts.
- Check the decks. Heavy snow and age can weaken any deck.
- Trim trees.
- Inspect brick and stucco for damages and repair.
- Check your driveway for cracks, chips or flaking in the concrete or asphalt.
- Check the blade on the mower and give it a tune-up.
- Rake lawn to remove branches and debris from the winter months.
- Check your outdoor water systems.
- Clean the grill and check burner jets for clogs. Make sure you stock up on propane or charcoal.
- Pressure-wash your siding, deck, sidewalks, driveway, garage floor, fences, and outdoor furniture. Warning: Make sure you know what you are doing because pressure washers can cause damage if not properly used.
- Wash windows.