





HOME Rochester and Make Monroe Home Homeowners Fall 2024 Newsletter Fall Maintenance Checklist

- Gutter clean out- Thoroughly clean out leaves and debris from gutters. Repair sagging or loose gutters. Check joints and seams for leaks. Make sure that downspouts are clear and are pointed away from the house.
- Leaves, lawn clean up- Maintain your lawn and rake leaves. Check your property for loose branches or limbs. Prune branches away from your home. Check with the City of Rochester or your town to find out when lawn debris is picked up.
- Windows, caulking, leaks- To prepare for cooler fall weather, inspect weather stripping around windows and replace if necessary. Check for cracked or broken windows. A tight seal is the first line of defense against air and water. Clean window screens.
- Furnace and sump pump- Change your air furnace filter often, a new filter will help your furnace run more efficiently. Do a check of your furnace and your sump pump for proper function before cooler weather sets in.
- Dryer vent and house fans- Clean out your lint trap each cycle. Unplug your dryer and clean your dryer vent and hose monthly. Your vent is found at the back of the dryer. Check for proper functioning of your kitchen exhaust and bathroom fans; clean filters. Exhaust fans rid the room air of excess moisture, humidity, odors and pollutants.
- Leaks in/out-faucets- Check under the kitchen and bathroom sinks to make sure connections on pipes and hoses are properly sealed. Look for wetness around the dishwasher that could signal an existing or potential problem. Check your washing machine hoses for cracks, bulges, or dampness. Also check hot water heaters, which may show signs of corrosion and leaks.
- Exterior home inspection- It's good to do a walk-around of your property. Remove hoses from spigots and drain them; store them indoors coiled and flat until next spring.
- Roof- Check for inconsistencies on your roof including cracked or missing shingles and nail-pops.
- Smoke Detectors and CO Alarms- If your detectors are not hard wired, replace batteries in your smoke
 detectors and check for proper functioning of CO alarms. Have a working fire extinguisher on hand. Kitchens are the
 No. 1 source of home fires, and unattended cooking is the primary cause.
 Rochester Fire Department (RFD) will provide home safety checks and install pre-purchased alarms upon request. The RFD

will visit any city home to ensure smoke or carbon monoxide alarms are correctly installed and in working order. The RFD receives federal funding to install a limited number of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms for low-income homeowners and in emergency situations, while supplies last; call #311.

You may want to enlist a professional to assist with some of these tasks.

We're looking to revitalize neighborhoods! Do you know of a vacant house in your neighborhood? Let us know! Contact Tim Wildman @ twildman@grhp.org with an address and we'll take a look!

Our mission is to send out tips for seasonal home maintenance to assist you with successful homeownership.

Please respond to this e-mail and indicate if you choose to opt out of further newsletter communication.

This content is available in Spanish upon request.

Daylight Savings time ends Sunday Nov. 3. Set clocks back 1 hour.



Help your Community by Using Less Fossil Fuel!

Save Energy and Money at Home with These Easy Tips:

Switch to LED lightbulbs



- An LED light bulb uses 75% less electricity and lasts much longer than oldfashioned bulbs
 - Example: A 12W LED bulb gives as much light as a 60W regular bulb.

Replace Old Appliances



- Save \$200 or more a year by using energy-efficient appliances
 - Newer Energy Star models of refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners use less electricity.
 - Find more info at <u>energystar.gov/products</u>

Improve Indoor Air Quality



- Change the air filter in your furnace or HVAC system regularly.
 - * A clean filter keeps dust out and makes your system work better.
 - * Find more info at energystar.gov/products



Upgrade Heating and Cooling Systems



- Switch to heat pumps for heating in winter and cooling in summer
 - * Heat pumps are more efficient and use less fossil fuel
- Get a free home energy assessment to see what improvements you can make. Visit CityOfRochester.gov/energysmart for details



Consider Solar Panels

- Solar panels can lower your electric bill by using energy from the sun.
- Incentives and tax credits can help with the cost. You can also contact an installer for a free estimate. Learn more at nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/NY-Sun/Solar-for-Your-Home/Paying-for-Solar/Incentives-and-Financing



Think about Electric Vehicles (EVs)

- EVs are cheaper to run and maintain than gas cars
- Incentives and tax credits can lower the cost of buying an EV
- EVs are quieter and have faster acceleration
- Charge your EV at home or at public charging stations around Rochester

Questions?

For more info on being sustainable, send a message to Shalini Beath, Energy & Sustainability Manager, at Shalini.Beath@CityOfRochester.gov.



Happenings at the Public Market



*HALLOWEEN AT THE MARKET- Sunday - Oct. 27, 4:30 – 7PM, Cityofrochester.gov/markethalloween

*HOLIDAYS AT THE MARKET, cityofrochester.gov/holidaysatmarket Sundays - Dec. 1, 8 & 15, 8AM- 2PM Thursday, Dec. 19, 6- 9PM



INTERNATIONAL PLAZA



City of Rochester Housing Rehabilitation Programs

The City of Rochester offers a range of housing rehabilitation programs designed to support homeowners who own residential property in Rochester. The City of Rochester, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant program, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery funds, and New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation fund the programs offered.

If you have any questions regarding what programs are available, contact your local Neighborhood Service Center (NSC).

Learn more by visiting: https://www.cityofrochester.gov/departments/neighborhood-and-business-development/housing-rehabilitation-and-repair-programs#contractor



Do you know of someone looking to purchase a home?
This opportunity is for income eligible first-time homeowners!
Contact us to learn more: (585)423-6320