

Before Summer is Over Checklist

September 7, 2018

Uh-oh! There's not much summer left! We know an ideal summer involves travel, fun, friends, and little to no work or chores. Unfortunately, we are going to be the bearer of bad news and remind you of some home maintenance you should do before the end of summer. But don't get too upset – we also included some fun things we think you should do at home before the end of summer.

Maintenance

- ❑ **Paint** – You'll probably want to keep your windows open on painting day, so make sure you do it before it gets cold
- ❑ **Check and Clean the Fireplace** – If you have an electric fireplace, turn it on at the end of summer to make sure it is still in working order. If you have a wood fireplace, make sure you get it cleaned before winter hits
- ❑ **Home Repairs** – Driveway, windows, doors and locks, foundation, siding... Regardless of the season you should take care of these things sooner rather than later, but double-check everything before the end of summer and make repairs before things get worse.
- ❑ **Clean the Ducts and Change the Air Filter** – You live in Alberta, so you simply can't escape the dust. You can stay on top of it, though, by getting your ducts cleaned, and changing your air filter regularly
- ❑ **Clean the Windows, Gutters, And Deck** – Choose a nice afternoon towards the end of summer, and get all this done. Otherwise, you are going to be staring out a dirty window all winter. And don't forget to protect your deck furniture before it's too late

Some Tidying Up

- ❑ **Declutter (and Don't Forget the Garage)** – Choose a day when you are feeling motivated and fill up some boxes for selling, donating, and trash
- ❑ **Clean the Carpets and Upholstery** – Do this in the summer and vacate the house for a few hours after to let the carpet dry
- ❑ **Organize the Coat Closet** – Pretty soon the flip flops and sun hats will have to make way for the winter boots and puffy jackets
- ❑ **Clean the Garbage, Recycling, and Compost Bins** – A quick spray with the hose should do

Don't Forget to Enjoy

- ❑ **BBQs** – Have your friends over, and enjoy everyone's favourite summer pastimes
- ❑ **Garden** – Whether you prefer flowers or vegetables, get the most of your garden time while you can
- ❑ **Flowers and Bright Colours** – Decorate your home with the best of summer before it feels out of place
- ❑ **Have a Fire** – Nothing is more mesmerizing than a fire on a summer night (and nothing is more delicious than food cooked over a fire)
- ❑ **Sunbathe and Stargaze** – Get some last minute sun and enjoy the warm nights while they last

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