EDGEMOOR HOMEOWNER SERIES • NOVEMBER

Before Winter Sets In

A practical checklist for the wet, windy months in the Pacific Northwest.

KEEP WATER MOVING

- ☐ Clear leaves and debris from gutters; check that downspouts are securely connected and discharge water away from the foundation where appropriate.
- ☐ After a heavy rain, look for standing water near the house, overflowing gutters or areas where drainage appears blocked.
- ☐ Clear leaves from exterior drains and catch basins on your property. Avoid removing or altering drainage features you are not familiar with.

PROTECT THE EXTERIOR

- ☐ Disconnect garden hoses and protect exposed outdoor faucets according to the fixture manufacturer's instructions.
- ☐ Check window and door weatherstripping for visible gaps or drafts; replace worn seals as needed.
- ☐ Look over the roof from the ground for missing or damaged shingles, debris or other visible concerns. Arrange a qualified professional inspection if needed.

GET READY FOR COLD WEATHER

- ☐ Have the heating system serviced as recommended and replace or clean filters according to the manufacturer's schedule.
- ☐ Test smoke and carbon-monoxide alarms; replace batteries if needed and check the expiration dates on the devices.
- ☐ If you have a fireplace or wood stove, have it inspected and cleaned as recommended before regular use.

CHECK TREES & OUTDOOR AREAS

- ☐ Look for dead, damaged or overhanging branches that could become a concern during windstorms. Consult a qualified arborist for work near structures or power lines.
- ☐ Secure or store outdoor furniture, umbrellas, planters and other items that could blow around in strong winds.
- ☐ Make sure exterior steps, walkways and handrails are in good repair and have adequate lighting for darker, rainy days.

A quick reminder: Every home is different. Follow product and equipment instructions, and use qualified, insured professionals for roof work, electrical work, tree work and other tasks that require specialized equipment or expertise.

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