

Here is a fall cleaning check list. Any of these items something you'd like done?

## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2014

### Outside The House

- Clean and store patio furniture, umbrellas, children's summer toys.
- Touch up paint on trim, railings and decks. Use a wire brush to remove flaking paint; prime bare wood first.
- Check caulk around windows and doors
- Inspect external doors and garage doors. Do they close tightly? Install weather-stripping, door thresholds if needed.
- Wash exterior windows.
- Drain and store garden hoses. Install insulating covers on exterior spigots. In hard-freeze areas, have sprinkler systems blown free of water.
- Check gutters and downspouts. Clear of debris if necessary.
- Clear out and mulch flower beds
- Clean and cover barbecue
- Wash out garbage and recycling bins

#### **Garage/Storage Shed**

- Sweep and wash floor
- Repair and clean snow shovels
- Check snow blower
- Stock up on ice melt

### Inside The House

- Vacuum drapes and window treatments. Clean window sills and window wells. Vacuum baseboards and corners.
- Vacuum upholstered furniture.
- Wash interior windows.
- Turn mattresses front-to-back and end-to-end to equalize wear.
- Pull refrigerator away from the wall, and vacuum the condenser coils. For bottom-mounted coils, use a long, narrow brush to clean coils of dust and debris.
- Clean ceiling-mounted light fixtures.
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Inspect each appliance. Does it need supplies? Stock up on softener salt now, and avoid staggering over icy sidewalks with heavy bags.
- Dust cobwebs; ceiling/baseboard
- Clean or replace air filters or furnace filters
- Inspect washer hoses for bulges, cracks or splits. Replace them every other year.
- Check dryer exhaust tube and vent for built-up lint, debris or birds' nests! Make sure the exterior vent door closes tightly when not in use.
- Drain sediment from hot water heaters.
- Fill water softener with salt