

Over the Fence

Coloso Properties

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Fall into Autumn—Easy Home Maintenance Tips

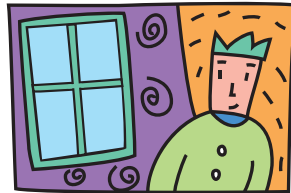
No matter where you live, seasonal changes in temperature and moisture levels require maintenance. Check out these fall maintenance tasks to help maintain your house in good condition.

- **Change the batteries in your smoke detector.** Fire experts suggest changing the batteries twice a year. An easy way to remember—change your batteries at the beginning and end of Daylight Savings Time.
- **Drain a gallon or two of water from your water heater** to extend its life expectancy.
- **Clean your roof gutters of leaves and other debris.**
- **Trim shrubs and trees** so that they clear the foundation, exterior walls, and roof of the house. Shrubbery that's too close to the house can promote the growth of mildew, mold, and algae, particularly during warmer weather. Root growth can damage foundations. Limbs can scrape paint on siding and trim.
- **Examine the roof** for evidence of damage to roof coverings, flashings and

SEPTEMBER HOME WARRANTY TIP: *Need a tip for this month of September. This very helpful tip will go in this place as soon as it's written. For September.*

chimneys. Check for evidence of leakage and condensation or vermin activity. Level out insulation if needed.

- **Inspect the exterior walls and foundation** for evidence of damage, cracking or movement. Watch for bird nests or other vermin or insect activity.
- **Clean windows and test their operation.** Improve caulking and weather-stripping as necessary. Watch for evidence of rot in wood window frames. Paint and repair windowsills and frames as necessary.
- **Inspect for evidence of wood boring insect activity.** Eliminate any wood/soil contact around the perimeter of the home.
- **Test the overhead garage door opener,** to ensure that the auto-reverse mechanism is responding properly. Clean and lubricate hinges, rollers and tracks on overhead doors.
- **Replace or clean exhaust hood filters.**
- **Clean, inspect and/or service all appliances** as per the manufacturer's recommendations.
- **Fertilize your lawn:** once in mid-September and again in early October. Consider aerating your lawn.



Labor Day: How it Came About and What it Means

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well being of our country.

"All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day...is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation."

—**Samuel Gompers**, founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor.

SEPTEMBER

September 1st: Labor Day

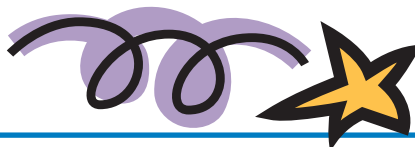
September 11th: Patriot's Day

September 22nd: First Day of Autumn

September 25th: Rosh Hashanah begins

September 28th:
National Good Neighbor Day

National Preparedness Month



OVER THE FENCE

September is National Preparedness Month

If an emergency occurred tomorrow, would you be ready?

Sponsored by FEMA, National Preparedness Month aims to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks.

Police, fire and rescue workers may not always be able to reach you quickly in an emergency or disaster. Make sure that you and your family are prepared for an emergency. Ensure that you can go for at least three days without electricity, water service, access to a supermarket, or other local services.

What you can do:

1. Prepare a disaster supply kit with at least three days of food and water.
2. Create a Family Emergency Plan, so that your family knows how to communicate during an emergency.
3. Obtain a NOAA Weather Radio.

For more information visit: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/rep.html#U73RVpRdWE4>

GRILLED POTATO PACKETS

Cooking potatoes in a foil packet means one less pot to wash, and highlights the delicate, earthy flavor of just-dug new potatoes.

Makes: 4 servings, 1 1/4 cups per serving

Ingredients

2 pounds new potatoes, scrubbed and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices

3 medium shallots, thinly sliced

2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

Preparation

Heat grill to medium-high.

Meanwhile, place potatoes, shallots, oil, salt and pepper in a large bowl; toss to coat. Place two 24-inch-long pieces of foil on the counter and lightly coat with nonstick cooking spray. Arrange potatoes and shallots in a single layer, slightly overlapping, on half of each piece of foil. Leave a 2-inch border on all sides. Fold foil over and pinch the edges together, making two packets.

Place packets on the grill. Cover the grill and cook for 12 to 15 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. (When you open a packet to check doneness, be careful of steam.) Serve immediately.



Repair, Replace, Relax with Fidelity National Home Warranty (FNHW). A home warranty from FNHW provides both the home buyer and seller with "peace of mind" when it comes to repairs and/or replacement of a home's major systems and appliances. FNHW prides itself on superior customer service, including quick response time and efficient solutions for homeowners' problems and needs.



If you are thinking of buying or selling a home in the near future, please call for a personal interview and property assessment with no obligation.

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another agent. These materials contain information and articles obtained from third parties. FNHW does not endorse the recommendations of any third party nor guarantee the information provided is complete or correct.



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*Call me today for a free
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consultation.*

