



FALL HOMEOWNER EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

A 10-Point Guide to Protect Your Home Before Winter

VOLPE ENTERPRISES, INC.

Complete Home Renovations Since 1970

North Wales • Malvern • Norristown, PA

Before the First Frost

The days right before the weather turns are the cheapest time of year to catch a small problem before it becomes an expensive one. Use this checklist to walk your home's exterior and flag anything that needs a closer look, then bring in a professional for anything you can't fully assess from the ground.

1. Roof & Attic

- ☐ Look for missing, cracked, or curling shingles
Binoculars from the ground work fine.
- ☐ Check flashing around chimneys, vents, and skylights
- ☐ Scan for granules collecting in gutters or on the ground
A sign of shingle wear.
- ☐ Check the attic for daylight, water stains, or musty odors

2. Gutters & Downspouts

- ☐ Clear leaves and debris from gutters and gutter guards
- ☐ Confirm downspouts direct water at least 3 to 5 feet from the foundation
- ☐ Check for sagging sections or separated joints

3. Siding & Trim

- ☐ Inspect siding for cracks, warping, or loose panels
- ☐ Check caulking around trim, corners, and utility penetrations
- ☐ Look for peeling paint, which can signal moisture intrusion

4. Windows & Doors

- ☐ Test weatherstripping and door sweeps for drafts
- ☐ Re-caulk any gaps around window and door frames
- ☐ Check storm windows and screens; swap or store as needed

5. Yard, Grading & Drainage

- ☐ Confirm the ground slopes away from the foundation
- ☐ Trim tree limbs hanging over the roof or gutters
- ☐ Clear debris from window wells and basement drains

6. Exterior Systems

- ☐ Clean dryer vents and exterior exhaust covers
- ☐ Cover or service outdoor A/C units per manufacturer guidance
- ☐ Drain and store outdoor hoses; shut off exterior spigots

Why This Matters

A small gap now is a big repair later.

Roof and gutter issues are two of the most common causes of winter water damage, and both are far cheaper to fix in October than in January. Most items above take an afternoon; the ones you can't check yourself are exactly what a professional estimate visit is for.

Get a Professional Eye on It

Walking the checklist above will catch a lot, but a trained specialist can spot the things that are hard to see from the ground: shingle wear, flashing gaps, and gutter pitch issues that only show up on a closer look. If anything on this list gave you pause, that's worth a second opinion before winter weather sets in.

Schedule Your Free Exterior Estimate

Volpe Enterprises, Inc. has served homeowners in Southeastern PA for over 50 years. Reach out and a member of our team will schedule a no-obligation estimate of your roof, gutters, and exterior.

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