Dear Homeowner:

Preparing your home for Fall is crucial to ensure it remains safe, energy-efficient, and comfortable during the colder months. Here's a comprehensive Fall home maintenance checklist to ensure that you and your family stay safe and warm. Please let us know if you have any questions by contacting us at Habitat22482@gmail.com.

Have a Gourd-geous Fall from the Lancaster/Northumberland Habitat for Humanity.

Home Preventative Maintenance Checklist

Exterior Maintenance

Inspect the roof for missing or damaged shingles and leaks.
Clean gutters and downspouts to prevent water damage and ice dams.
Inspect siding and foundation for cracks or damage.
Seal gaps around windows, doors, and pipes to prevent drafts and pests.
Drain outdoor faucets and store hoses to prevent pipe bursts.
Winterize sprinkler systems and lawn irrigation.
Trim tree branches away from the house and power lines.
Cover or store patio furniture and outdoor equipment.
Check exterior lighting for shorter days and safety.

HVAC and Heating

Schedule a furnace inspection and tune-up.
Replace furnace filters (every 1–3 months).
Test thermostats (consider upgrading to a programmable one).
Check carbon monoxide and smoke detectors (replace batteries).
Inspect and clean vents and ducts if needed.
Seal ductwork to prevent heat loss.

Interior Preparation

Check weather stripping on doors and windows.
Reverse ceiling fans to clockwise to push warm air down.
Inspect attic insulation for signs of wear or pests.
Test sump pump (especially if your area gets heavy rain or snow).
Clean dryer vents to reduce fire risk.
Begin stocking up on winter supplies (salt, shovels, emergency kits).

Cleaning & Organization

Deep clean carpets and rugs before the holidays.
Clean windows inside and out.
Declutter and organize closets and storage.
Rotate seasonal clothing and donate unused items.
Clean kitchen appliances (especially oven before holiday cooking).

Home Preventative Maintenance Checklist

Pest Prevention

Inspect for signs of rodents or insects in attic, basement, and garage.
Seal small openings where pests can enter.
Store food and pet food in sealed containers.

Yard & Landscaping

Rake and clean up fallen leaves to prevent mold or mildew buildup.
Protect delicate plants with burlap or frost blankets to prevent damage from cold weather.
Clean and store garden tools in a dry location to prevent rusting.

By completing these tasks, you'll help protect your home from the challenges that Fall brings and maintain a comfortable living environment all season long.