Dear Homeowner:

Preparing your home for Winter is crucial to ensure it remains safe, energy-efficient, and comfortable during the colder months. Here's a comprehensive Winter 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 cozy winter from the Lancaster/Northumberland Habitat for Humanity.

Home Preventative Maintenance Checklist

Heating System Maintenance

✅**Inspect the furnace**: Have a professional inspect and clean your furnace to ensure it's working efficiently.

✅**Replace furnace filters**: Change filters to improve air quality and system efficiency.

✅**Check thermostat settings**: Ensure your thermostat is working properly, and consider upgrading to a programmable or smart thermostat for better temperature control.

Insulation & Sealing

✅**Inspect insulation**: Check attic insulation to ensure it's adequate for winter temperatures.

✅**Seal windows and doors**: Look for gaps and seal them with weatherstripping or caulk to prevent drafts.

✅**Inspect attic vents and exhaust fans**: Ensure they are clear of debris for proper ventilation and to prevent ice dams.

✅**Check and seal gaps around electrical outlets**: Use foam outlet gaskets to seal areas where cold air could enter.

Roof & Gutters

✅**Inspect the roof**: Check for damaged shingles or other signs of wear. Have a professional repair any issues to avoid leaks during winter.

✅**Clean gutters and downspouts**: Remove leaves and debris to prevent ice dams and ensure water can flow freely.

Plumbing Protection

✅**Inspect pipes for leaks**: Check pipes in unheated areas (basement, attic, garage) for leaks or signs of freezing.

✅**Insulate exposed pipes**: Use foam pipe insulation or heat tape to prevent freezing in vulnerable areas.

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 Winter brings and maintain a comfortable living environment all season long.