

Stay on Top of Fall Maintenance

Take Preventive Steps

We're getting ready for the chilly months ahead, and the Hastings Utilities Department can help you take steps to keep your home safe and warm. Use the checklist below before the weather turns cold to boost energy efficiency while preventing dangerous equipment malfunctions that can cause damage to your home.

- Check the batteries in your UL-approved carbon monoxide detectors and smoke alarms
- Schedule a yearly furnace maintenance appointment with your trusted provider
- Change your furnace filter regularly
- Flush your hot water tank and replace the anode rod if needed
- Winterize your sprinkler system before the first freeze to prevent damaged pipes
- Seal air leaks in your home with new weather stripping around doors
- Install storm windows and doors, and remove screens
- Caulk around areas where masonry meets siding, or where pipes/wires enter the house
- Change the direction of your ceiling fan to push warm air down

Facing a Bigger Project?

If your fall projects are more extensive than simple maintenance, check out hastingsutilities.com to find rebates and incentives for energy-efficient equipment.

More Peace of Mind

Checklists are a lot to keep track of. Remove the task of remembering when your utility bill is due by signing up for Automatic Bank Draft billing and let us do the work for you. Sign up at hastingsutilities.com.

Renting in Hastings? Your Right for Reasonable Accommodation

Housing providers are required to make a reasonable accommodation in their rules, policies, practices and procedures, and to allow reasonable modifications (changes to the physical structure) for individuals with disabilities. A request need not be in writing, but it is recommended that a request be made in writing so that there is a record of both the request and the date it was sent. When considering a reasonable accommodation/modification request, a housing provider may take only the following into consideration:

- Is the individual for whom the request is made a person with a disability?
- Is the requested accommodation or modification necessary to allow the person with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling, including common areas? This is not determined by the housing provider but by the individual; however, confirmation from a qualified third party may be requested.

- Would the requested accommodation impose an undue financial and administrative burden on the housing provider? For a modification, this may only be considered if the housing provider receives federal financial assistance.
- Would the requested accommodation require a fundamental alteration in the nature of the program?

For more information or to file a housing discrimination complaint, contact your local fair housing agency or contact HUD at:

1-800-669-9777

1-800-927-9275 (TTY)

www.HUD.gov/fairhousing