

# Give Your Plumbing A Spring Cleaning!

## Checklist:

- Clear your gutters, downspouts, and vent pipes on the roof.
- Inspect your pipes (or have your plumber inspect) for leaks, damage, or anything unusual.
- Check your hose bibbs for leaks or damage and replace them if needed. If dripping continues after the spout is replaced, you may have had a frozen pipe that cracked and needs repairing.
- Install backwater valves on all floor drains to prevent sewer backups.
- Snake any slow floor drains to remove clogs, and pour a gallon of water into infrequently used floor drains. This fills the trap and will prevent odors and sewer gases from coming in the house.
- Use a bacterial drain cleaner to clear debris and build-up from all the drains in your home. If you have a “frequent clogger”, take the time now to snake it and get rid of the problem.
- Clean the traps beneath your kitchen, bathroom, and laundry sinks.
- Put strainers over all of your drains to help prevent hair and other clogging debris from going down the drain.
- Test your sump pump. Pour water into the basin and trip the lever to ensure it is still working properly and the on/off mechanism isn’t corroded.
- Do an all-around maintenance check on your water heater.
- Clean mineral build-up from your shower heads and faucets. Clean out and replace faucet aerators if needed.
- Check the water supply lines to your washing machine, faucets, toilets, and other water-using appliances or fixtures. If you see bulges, tears, or leaks, replace the lines.
- Clean out your washing machine lint trap.
- Give your garbage disposer a thorough cleaning and repair it if needed.
- Do a thorough leak check in and around your home, remembering to do a water meter reading to make sure you’ve gotten everything.