

# YARD & HOME EXTERIOR FALL CHECKLIST

PREVENTING WATER IN YOUR BASEMENT  
STARTS WITH THE ROOF OF YOUR HOME



## CLEAN OUT YOUR GUTTERS/EAVESTROUGH

Your gutters catch more than just rain. There could be leaves, branches, shingles and even toys that will block the flow of water.

## CLEAN OUT AND PROPERLY SET UP DOWNSPOUTS

If your eavestrough are installed properly and are not blocked by debris, then any water caught in the gutters will make its way to your downspouts. If the downspouts are clogged or do not properly move water away from your foundation, the water could flow back to and into your basement or crawlspace. Keep in mind when placing the downspouts, that you may need to get to them in early spring to clear snow and ice away as well. Downspout extensions can be added and you can also use weeping tile (tubing) to extend downspouts further away from the foundation.

## CHECK YOUR ROOF

Your roof is designed to shed water to the eavestrough. If there is damage to the roof, it may prevent proper drainage. There may also be tree limbs from your trees or neighbouring trees that could cause snow build up. As well there might be critters who have made nests that can also cause damage and prevent water flow.

## CHECK THE FOUNDATION OF YOUR HOME FOR LARGE CRACKS

If there are large cracks, contact us for a quote to repair. We may not have time to properly fix the foundation, but you can use Sikaflex Polyurethane Joint Sealant. If the cracks appear small, take photos or measurements to compare any movement or changes in the spring.

## MAKE SURE YOUR YARD SLOPES AWAY FROM THE FOUNDATION

If you have time before it snows, you can walk around your home and visually inspect the ground, sidewalks, pathways to make sure they slope away from the foundation. You can add crusher dust to help slope the ground away. If concrete sidewalks and driveways slope toward the foundation, you may need to contact a landscaper or contractor to help. If the sidewalk are moveable patio blocks, you can also add crusher dust under them to help slope away.

## TEST SUMP PUMPS

Check any sump pumps and the sump pit to make certain they are working. If a new sump pump is required, contact us for installation.

## CHECK FLOOR DRAINS

Your home should have a floor drain. Either in a furnace room or laundry room. Ensure there is nothing blocking the flow of water to that drain and that the drain is not clogged.

## Don't want to do it yourself?

Visit our website for information and local trades that can help with some of the items on this checklist. [www.aasolidfoundation.com/fall-home-yard-checklist/](http://www.aasolidfoundation.com/fall-home-yard-checklist/)