

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Preparing Your House For Colder Weather

(NAPSA)—Colder weather often means you'll be spending more time indoors with family and friends. That's why it's important to make sure your home is prepared to make your loved ones feel comfortable and protected.

Here are some suggestions to help get your home in shape for the colder months ahead:

- Clogged gutters can result in rainwater or melting snow backing up onto your roof, leading to water damage. Make sure to regularly check that gutters are clean of debris. This can help avoid costly repairs and water stains on your ceilings.

- Sealing up your home is the first step in stopping drafts, which can lead to costly heating bills. This includes caulking and shrink-wrapping the windows, weather-stripping the doors and installing storm windows. A good way to test if you need additional sealing is to light a candle on a windy day and place it near the spot you are testing. If the flame flickers when the wind blows, then you know it's a good idea to seal it up.

- Colder temperatures outdoors mean rodents will seek refuge in your warm home. To get them out, use a simple, mess-free solution, such as d-CON Ready Mixed Bait-bits. They are designed to kill in one feeding and can be effective in hard-to-reach areas, such as under the couch and refrigerator. Another option, d-CON No View, No Touch traps, is designed to trap and kill mice instantly without the mess.



Ridding your home of rodents may require setting baits and traps in hard-to-reach areas, such as under the couch, refrigerator and sink.

- Preparation is key before the snow begins to accumulate. By stocking up early, you can avoid the mad dash to the store for ice melt and the possibility you will be left without any.

- Freezing temperatures can cause major problems with your indoor and outdoor plumbing. Drain all garden hoses and insulate exposed plumbing pipes. If you are escaping the cold by heading to warmer destinations, set your thermostat to at least 55 degrees to help prevent your pipes from freezing or potentially bursting.

Protecting your home this winter can help make the remainder of the year more enjoyable, allowing you to focus on more important things, like sharing good times with family and friends.

For more information, visit www.d-conproducts.com.