

HINTS FOR HOMEMAKERS

Simple Fall Spruce-Up Tips Get Your Home Ready For Another Season

(NAPSA)—As fall approaches and the leaves turn color, we start thinking of the holiday season filled with parties and entertaining. Prepare your home now while the days are still long enough to clean inside and out. This will leave you with more time in the colder months to nestle in and enjoy the comforts of your home. To make fall cleaning fast, fun and easy, try some of the following tactics:

- **Check it off**—Create a list to break your chores up into small manageable tasks. After you have completed each task, check it off your list. This way, you can see your progress and feel more motivated to continue.

- **Work from the outside in**—It's best to start cleaning up the outdoors before the days start getting colder. Put away the traces of summer by packing up the gardening tools and hoses. Clean the kiddy pool and patio furniture before storing them for the winter. Try using the Scotch-Brite wave shape scrub sponge. The unique wave shape fits into the palm of your hand and makes cleaning those tough-to-reach corners easier.

- **Make an appointment**—Set a specific time to conduct your major seasonal clean-up and make it a priority. Schedule any social plans around that time to keep you from leaving cleaning until 'later'. In addition, focus on cleaning only one room at a time working from top to bottom and left to right finishing one room before moving onto the next. This will make the time you spend cleaning more thorough and efficient.

- **Prepare the "Family Entertainment Center"**—Otherwise known as the living or family room, this is where family members spend most of their free time during the colder winter months, so it is important to give it a thorough cleaning. Vacuum upholstered furniture to get rid of the sand and dirt dragged in after days at the beach or in the yard.



Start cleaning outdoors before the days get colder by putting away traces of summer.

Remember to vacuum under and behind the furniture. Change the curtains and add a throw to the couch to give the room a touch of fall color.

- **Window to the World**—Clean both the inside and outside of the windows so you'll have a clearer view of the world as the seasons change. To make the job easier and quicker try the Scotch-Brite high performance cleaning cloth. The cloth's micro-texture design works without sprays and polishes and won't leave streaks. Once the windows are clean, take your screens down, wash them off with a hose and let them dry in the sun.

- **Clean your way to sweet dreams**—Don't forget about the bedroom. Change the bed linens, put away the brightly colored summer sheets and pull out comforters and blankets. It's also a good idea to flip your mattress every season to ensure for even wear. Open up your closets, wash or dry clean your summer clothes and store them in airtight containers.

When you have finally checked everything off your list, kick off your shoes and enjoy the wonderfully clean and organized home you have created. You can relax and enjoy knowing that your home is prepared for another season!