

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Maintenance Matters

(NAPSA)—Your home is probably your single largest investment and regular maintenance can be a good way to protect it.

Routine home maintenance can prevent damage from everyday perils like plumbing failures that can lead to costly problems and become significant personal disasters.



Being vigilant about your home can help you avoid many major repairs.

The Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) offers tips to help you avoid many unpleasant surprises and the inconvenience of major repairs:

- Regularly inspect plumbing and hoses to all appliances, including your refrigerator's ice maker, for signs of leaks, bulging or cracking;
- Check for cracks and leaks in and around windows, doors, the roof, foundation and exterior walls;
- Check the condition of metal flashing, vents, air conditioners, siding and drywall.

For more information, visit www.disastersafety.org.