



A. Raymond
PLUMBING
Inc.

Seasonal Plumbing Maintenance Checklist for Omaha and Council Bluffs Homeowners

Introduction

Regular plumbing maintenance is essential to keep your home running smoothly and prevent costly repairs. This checklist, tailored for Omaha and Council Bluffs homeowners, is designed for tasks you can complete twice a year. Address these items in the Spring (March-April) and Fall (September-October) for optimal plumbing health. If you're ever uncertain or uncomfortable completing these tasks, a professional plumber is just a call away.

Spring Maintenance (March-April)

1. Inspect Outdoor Faucets and Hoses

- **What to Check:** Look for cracks, leaks, or reduced water flow from outdoor spigots or garden hoses.
- **Why It's Important:** Freezing temperatures can cause pipes or hoses to crack during winter.
- **Quick Tip:** Turn on the faucet and check if water flows freely. If not, there could be damage from frozen pipes.

2. Check for Leaks Under Sinks and Around Fixtures

- **What to Check:** Look for puddles, moisture, or signs of corrosion under sinks or around faucets.
- **Why It's Important:** Leaks can lead to water damage and mold if left unnoticed.
- **Quick Tip:** Use a flashlight to inspect hard-to-reach areas under kitchen and bathroom sinks.

3. Clean Drains and Check for Clogs

- **What to Check:** Slow drainage or strange gurgling noises in sinks, tubs, or showers.
- **Why It's Important:** Clogged drains can lead to backups or sewer line issues.
- **Quick Tip:** Use a drain snake or a natural cleaner (baking soda and vinegar) to clear minor clogs.

4. Inspect Your Sump Pump

- **What to Check:** Test the pump by pouring water into the pit to ensure it activates and drains water properly.
- **Why It's Important:** Spring often brings heavy rains, and a faulty sump pump can lead to basement flooding.
- **Quick Tip:** If your sump pump doesn't activate, check the power connection or call a plumber for repairs.

5. Flush Your Water Heater

- **What to Check:** Sediment buildup at the bottom of the tank.
- **Why It's Important:** Hard water common in Omaha and Council Bluffs can lead to mineral deposits, reducing efficiency.
- **Quick Tip:** Drain a few gallons of water to flush out debris, or schedule professional maintenance.

Fall Maintenance (September-October)

1. Disconnect and Store Garden Hoses

- **What to Check:** Ensure hoses are detached from outdoor faucets and stored properly.
- **Why It's Important:** Leaving hoses attached can cause pipes to freeze and burst during winter.
- **Quick Tip:** After disconnecting, drain hoses and store them in a dry area to prevent cracking.

2. Inspect and Winterize Outdoor Faucets

- **What to Check:** Look for leaks or drips in outdoor spigots, and install frost-free covers if needed.

- **Why It's Important:** Protecting outdoor plumbing prevents freeze-related damage.
- **Quick Tip:** Shut off water supply to outdoor faucets from inside your home if they don't have frost protection.

3. Check Pipes for Insulation

- **What to Check:** Ensure exposed pipes in basements, crawl spaces, or attics are insulated.
- **Why It's Important:** Prevents freezing and bursting pipes during Omaha and Council Bluffs' cold winters.
- **Quick Tip:** Wrap exposed pipes with foam insulation sleeves, readily available at hardware stores.

4. Test Your Water Pressure

- **What to Check:** Low pressure may indicate leaks or blockages in the system.
- **Why It's Important:** Catching low pressure early can prevent more significant plumbing issues.
- **Quick Tip:** Use a water pressure gauge to test your home's pressure (recommended range: 40–60 PSI).

5. Check for Hard Water Buildup

- **What to Check:** White, chalky deposits on faucets, showerheads, or inside appliances.
- **Why It's Important:** Hard water is prevalent in this region and can clog pipes and reduce efficiency.
- **Quick Tip:** Soak fixtures in vinegar to remove deposits, or consider installing a Water Softener.

Conclusion and Call to Action

Plumbing maintenance can save you time, money, and stress, but some tasks require professional expertise. If you're unsure how to perform any of these checks—or simply want peace of mind—let A. Raymond Plumbing help.

Remember: Plumbing is a *critical system* that shouldn't be tinkered with without proper confidence and understanding. If you don't feel comfortable completing any of these tasks, we highly recommend reaching out to an expert. Preventative maintenance is far more affordable than emergency repairs.

Schedule your plumbing inspection or maintenance appointment today with A. Raymond Plumbing, proudly serving Omaha and Council Bluffs homeowners.

Omaha (402) 391-1855

Council Bluffs (712) 259-0689