My Home Winter Ready Check List

Exterior
☑ Have roof inspection for missing or loose shingles
☑ Inspect the clean gutters and downspouts
☑ Caulk windows and weather-strip doors
☑ Switch screens to storm windows
☑ Turn off water supply to outside faucets
☑ Disconnect garden hoses outside faucets and drain the hose before you store it
☑ Drain exterior water faucets of water in the line
☑ Use an insulated cover for the outside faucet

Interior
☑ If you have a propane or oil furnace, make sure to have your fuel storage tank topped off and ready to go
☑ Have heating system checked
☑ Flush water heater and check for signs of leakage
☑ Clean or replace air filters, monthly
☑ Clear obstacles to heating vents so air can freely flow
☑ Change batteries in in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
☑ Charge the battery backup for landline telephones
☑ If you have a chimney check and clear of any nests from birds, squirrels or other animals.
☑ Cover drafty windows with plastic
☑ Clean dryer filter regularly
☑ Find and eliminate any leaks or gaps using caulking and/or weather striping
☑ Make sure any paints or flammable materials are stored away from heat sources
☑ Make sure you know where the shut-off switch is for water, gas and electric

Recommended Tips to Help Reduce Energy Costs
☑ Use a programmable thermostat to lower temperatures at night or when you leave home
☑ Use energy efficient light bulbs
☑ If you have ceiling fans run the fans in reverse
☑ Eliminate drafts under the door by using draft stopper(s)
☑ Cover drafty windows with plastic
☑ Insulate pipes
☑ Put caulk plates around outlets
☑ If you have a fireplace, remember to close the damper when fireplace is not in use
☑ In older homes, insulate the attic
☑ Caution, if you use electric space heaters, select a unit with automatic shut-off
☑ Consider budget billing to spread heating costs throughout the year