

10 Steps for Springtime Home Maintenance in Florida

- **01. Outdoor Inspection:** Walk all around your home looking closely for any damage incurred over the winter months. Watch for shingles that are loose or missing, siding that's damaged, gutter and downspout damage, and cracks in the sidewalks or driveway.
- **02. Yard Cleanup – Tree and Shrub Trimming:** Remove fallen tree limbs, rake leaves, put down new mulch, and trim shrubs and trees. Trim back branches that could damage your home.
- **03. Foundation Review:** Both outside and inside, look for cracks, leaks, and shifts in walls. Interior wall cracks might be a sign that your foundation is shifting. Look closely outside around the edges of the foundation. Watch for root growth near the foundation as well.
- **04. Gutter and Downspout Cleaning:** During your inspection, make sure they are clear and any obstructions removed. Repair any damage you find.
- **05. Outdoor Plumbing and Equipment Review:** Take time to inspect sprinkler systems, AC units, pool equipment, outdoor faucets, and everything else you've installed around your home.
- **06. Outdoor Drain Inspection:** Make sure storm drains and other rainwater management systems are clear of obstructions and ready to go. A plumbing snake can clear any clogged drains you find.
- **07. Lawn Seeding Work:** Look for bare or thin spots. Use matching seed for your lawn and try a lawn seed blanket on slopes to help keep things in place as the seed germinates and extends its roots.
- **08. Pest Management:** Ants, termites, and burrowing animals can cause damage at ground level. Bats, birds, squirrels, and flying insects can damage your roof. Help prevent their entry by sealing any cracks or holes that you find.
- **09. Deck and Siding Washing:** Washing with the correct pressure setting for the type of wood or siding is essential. Pine decks typically need a 500 psi setting, while vinyl siding companies recommend using liquid soap to prevent damage to the finish.
- **10. Future Project Planning:** Over the winter, or perhaps over the past year, you've no doubt been collecting a list of home improvements. Now is the perfect time to pull them all together into a comprehensive list along with any open repair items.

Need help with foundation repair?

Get a free inspection from your local experts at Florida Foundation Authority.