

# FriscO<sup>PUBLIC</sup> Library

## Activities at Home

### Getting Your Home Ready for Fall

#### Plant for Spring

Fall can be a good time to plant trees, shrubs, and even some vegetables.

- [Collin County Master Gardeners Monthly Guides](#)

#### Clear the Leaves

Researchers with Texas A&M AgriLife find that mowing over a light covering of leaves breaks them down enough for most many lawns.

- [Texas A&M AgriLife Leaf Management Plan](#)

#### Air Conditioning and Heating

This is a great time to test out your heating unit and get it serviced if needed before the coldest weather arrives. Think about switching the ceiling fans now to circulate air upwards for the fall the winter.

- [Family Handyman article: 21 Air Conditioner Maintenance and Home Cooling Tips](#)
- [EPA: Should You Have Air Ducts in Your Home Cleaned?](#)

#### Outdoor Faucets

Now is the time to get the supplies to cover your faucets and make room to store any outdoor hoses inside.

- [Family Handyman article: 13 Tips to Prepare Your Plumbing for Winter](#)

#### Keep the Heat

Check for drafts. Caulking and insulation around your doors and windows will be easier to do in the fall before the coldest weather arrives.

- [Detecting Leaks: Energy.gov](#)
- [Caulking: Energy.gov](#)
- [Weatherstripping: Energy.gov](#)

#### Chimney

If you haven't had your chimney swept or inspected, this would be the time to do so before you start using it this winter.

## Dryer Vents

It is a good idea to clean and inspect that dryer vent annually.

- [Family Handyman: How to Clean a Dryer Vent](#)

## Clocks, Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Change the batteries in your safety equipment around the house (smoke detectors, flashlights, weather radios, etc.).