

Maine Winter Prep Checklist

A quick homeowner checklist to help keep your home warm, dry, and ready for a Maine winter.

Start with the essentials: seal drafts, service your heat source, inspect the chimney, make sure your firewood is dry, protect pipes, and prepare for outages.

Seal Drafts & Check Windows

- Seal obvious gaps around windows, doors, attic hatches, and utility penetrations.
- Replace worn weatherstripping and add door sweeps where needed.
- Use window film or storm inserts on drafty older windows if replacement is not necessary.
- Check basement and mudroom doors for cold-air leaks.

Chimney, Stove & Heating System

- Schedule a professional chimney inspection and cleaning before regular use.
- Check stovepipe joints, gaskets, firebrick, and clearances around the stove.
- Service your boiler, furnace, heat pump, pellet stove, or propane system.
- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors; check fire extinguishers.

Firewood Prep

- Confirm whether your supply is green, seasoned, or kiln-dried.
- Use a moisture meter on a freshly split face if you are unsure whether wood is dry enough.
- Stack firewood off the ground with good airflow.
- Protect the top of the stack from rain and snow, but do not wrap the entire pile tightly.
- Keep winter access to the woodpile clear of likely plow piles and roof runoff.

Protect Pipes & Manage Water

- Disconnect garden hoses and protect exterior faucets before freezing weather.
- Insulate vulnerable pipes in basements, crawl spaces, garages, and exterior-wall areas.
- Know where the main water shutoff is.
- Clean gutters and downspouts; make sure water drains away from the foundation.
- Check low spots, basement window wells, and exterior stairs for blocked drainage.

Inspect the Exterior

- Check the roof, siding, flashing, and exterior sealant from the ground.
- Address loose shingles, damaged siding, visible rot, or questionable flashing.
- Trim or address branches that could strike the roof or load gutters with debris.
- Check decks, steps, railings, and exterior lighting before snow and ice arrive.

Prepare for Power Outages

- Stock flashlights, batteries, charged power banks, drinking water, and needed medications.
- Test your generator and review safe operating procedures.
- Run generators outdoors only and well away from doors, windows, and enclosed spaces.
- Remember that wells, pumps, blowers, thermostats, and some heating systems still need electricity.

Know Your Backup Options

- Review Maine heating-assistance resources before you need emergency help.
- Check local firewood-bank options if heating costs become a hardship.
- Save important heating-service and fuel-supplier phone numbers where you can find them quickly.

**Need firewood before winter? We offer green, seasoned, and kiln-dried firewood.
Visit daylogging.com/firewood or contact Day Logging to plan ahead.**

For the full guide, see the Day Logging blog: “Maine Winter Prep Checklist: How to Keep Your Home Warm, Dry, and Ready.”