Home Winterizing Checklist

Furnace

Change your filters

Ensure you have fuel

If you use propane or oil get your tank topped off

Be sure you have a working CO detector call SKFR at 253-946-7347 if you need help getting one

Set your thermostat to 80 and see if the furnace runs properly

The time to get a repair person out is before a cold snap

Chimney

Remind yourself which way is the open and which is the closed position on your flue damper

The first time you use the chimney this season check chimney draft. Make sure the chimney will draw up the fire and smoke properly. Test this by taking several sheets of newspaper and rolling them up. Then with the fireplace damper in the **open position**, light the newspaper in the fireplace. The smoke should rise up the chimney. If it doesn't, you have an obstruction and need to call a professional in to clean the chimney of creosote or perhaps birds and other critters that may have moved in during the summer

If it's been a year or two since you have had your chimney cleaned consider having it done by a professional chimney sweep.

Plumbing

Disconnect your garden hoses from outdoor faucets and place an insulated cover over the hose bibb

If you are fortunate enough to leave the area for the winter shutoff the water supply to the house and drain the plumbing system.

If you have a sprinkler system; have it winterized by turning off the water supply and blowing out the pipes with compressed air.

Gutters

Clean the leaves and other debris out if your gutters to prevent backups and water damage

Be safe on the ladder and carry a cell phone to call a loved one or 911 if you fall.