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# A checklist to help prevent water damage losses.

When water penetrates your residential facility, significant structural damage can result — as well as mold growth. The cost to repair the building and items damaged by water intrusion can be expensive, but routine and seasonal maintenance checks will often detect potential problems in time to address them before significant damage occurs.

## Check *all* the boxes to help reduce your likelihood of loss.

### BATHROOMS

- Check and repair missing caulk and tile grout
- Check plumbing lines and address any slow drainage problems
- Keep a plunger close by toilet

### LAUNDRY ROOM/UTILITIES/ BASEMENT

- Check washing machine hose for wear and leakage; replace every 3-5 years
- Turn washing machine hoses off when no one is on premises
- Check water heater for rusting or wet spots from leakage; life expectancy 10-15 years
- Vent clothes dryer to outside of building instead of into attic or other inside location
- Check air conditioning drain lines and condensation pans every spring
- Test sump pump before wet seasons; replace every 10 years
- Set thermostat high enough to keep pipes from freezing

### KITCHEN

- Check sink and dishwasher plumbing for leaks or disconnection
- Unclog slow-draining sinks
- Repair missing or worn caulk
- Check icemaker hose and trace source of water puddles around refrigerator

### EXTERIOR AND ROOF

- Check roof for missing shingles
- Clean gutters and check for blockages; make sure downspouts drain away from building
- Check roof and eave ventilation to prevent moisture build-up
- Check window caulk and flashing around chimneys and vents
- Keep tree branches off roof and building
- Disconnect hoses from exterior faucets before seasonal freezing temperatures



Perform routine and seasonal maintenance checks to detect potential problems.

Providing solutions to help our members manage risk.<sup>SM</sup>

For your risk management and safety needs, contact Nationwide Loss Control Services: 1-866-808-2101 or [LCS@nationwide.com](mailto:LCS@nationwide.com).