

people

# PREP OR PAY

Winter can test your home and your pocketbook. After a hard winter we tend to discover an ounce of preparation in the fall can go a long way to reducing costs and headaches in the cold. We ask industry professionals what homeowners should do to guard against the cold, inside and out this winter.



**JESSICA BARLOW**, Associate  
**CHRIS HOWES**, Owner  
**DARRELL DONNELLY**, Associate  
*Howes Your Yard, Port Hope*

**What is a typical landscaping challenge homeowners overlook?**

Homeowners should leave a location for snow storage, make sure all irrigation/waterlines are blown out properly and protect vegetation from winter kill.

**What can homeowners do to their property to prepare for winter?**

Homeowners can prepare their lawns by over seeding and fertilizing. Protect vegetation by either mulching or wrapping with burlap sacks.

**MATT LOGAN**  
*Owner, Logan Tree Experts, Lakefield*

**Why is it important to service/inspect your property's trees?** Healthy trees not only increase the property value but also provide privacy and help save on energy costs. Having your trees regularly inspected and maintained also makes them safer and more storm-tolerant, which is important with the increase in extreme weather. Trees of all sizes should be inspected since young healthy trees grow into mature healthy trees.

**How can a homeowner recognize a tree in distress?** It is important to have a certified arborist inspect your trees regularly. It may be time to call an arborist if you see any of the following: dead branches, cracks, seams or holes; you hear creaking or popping; your trees are losing leaves during the growing season; your tree is late to leaf out, leaves are too small or discoloured; you see mushrooms on or around the tree; you find insects in or on the tree or find sawdust around the base of the tree. *Continued on page 50*



**STEVENSON**  
— BUILDING PRODUCTS —  
Serving Northumberland County Since 1979

Quality Products & Service  
Exceptional Value

- North Star Windows
- Mitten Siding & Alum.
- Goodfellow, CanExel, James Hardie & Cape Cod siding
- Gladstone Entrances
- Haas Garage Doors
- Eavestrough Machine
- Andex Metals

"As a matter of fact, our windows are the best"

**NEVER PAY TAXES**

Authorized Builder of Guildcrest Modular Homes

5488 Roseneath Landing Rd, Roseneath, ON  
905.352.3800 • Toll Free 1.877.57.GLASS  
www.stevensonbuildingproducts.ca

**Residential & Commercial Contracting**

**LARGE SELECTION**  
• Lights • Lamps • Shades • Ceiling Fans •

**VanVark**  
ELECTRIC  
SINCE 1968

613-392-5867 | 16477 Hwy 2 (Between Trenton & Brighton)

**DOCKS • BOAT LIFTS • ACCESSORIES**  
**DOCK HARDWARE • MARINE RAILWAYS**

1302 North Bay Drive, Kirkfield, ON  
(HWY 48, 4KM WEST OF COBOCONK)

**888-HMS-DOCK**  
**(888-467-3625)**

www.hmsdock.com | sales@hmsdock.com

**Canadian Made since 1987**

**Insured. Certified. Professional.**  
**705.652.6916 | logantreeexperts.com**

people

**CHERYL HEALEY, General Manager**  
**ANDREW LIPSCOMBE, Sales**  
*Water World Home & Leisure Centre, Peterborough*

**What is a common pre-winter maintenance issue for pool owners?**  
The most overlooked item is pool water chemistry while sitting over the winter. Remembering to raise the alkalinity of the inevitable standing water protects the pool liner over the winter. Adding the proper chemicals prior to closing and covering the pool with a tarp or safety cover will help improve the performance of the pool liner.

**Why is an outdoor hot tub great in the winter?** The winter season is a fantastic time to use your outdoor spa. Nothing is better than having a morning soak with a cup of coffee with the snow gently falling or soaking on a crisp winter night. Many clients report they sleep great after a cold weather hot tub soak.



**RICK BLACK, Associate**  
**GLEN STEVENSON, Owner**  
**ROB STEVENSON, Associate**  
*Stevenson Building Products, Roseneath*

**What overall heating impact does a good main-door seal have on a home in winter?** The door is generally the biggest opening to your home. Maintaining a tight seal on all sides of the door with the door jamb will ensure you spend less. The better the seal, the less heat loss in the winter and cool air in the summer means more money in your wallet.

**What indicators should prompt a homeowner to upgrade windows and doors?** Often homeowners see fogged thermo panes and this is a key indication of a window past its prime. A good seal prevents heat loss in the winter and cool-air loss in the summer, leaving more money in your wallet. Often the leak is seen best in winter months so make note for a spring replacement.

**BRIAN GILBERT, RANDY BURKE,**  
**CATHY BURKE**

*Partners, Evergreen Home & Cottage Inc., Lindsay*

**What can a homeowner design into homes that have no heat over winter?** Preparation for winter starts with the design and construction of the building. If there will be no heat over the winter, take care with what you choose for finishes and pick a low-maintenance exterior finish, to help defend against the winter weather. If you need to drain the water system at the end of every season, plan a spot for an accessible shutoff valve to make this maintenance task easier.

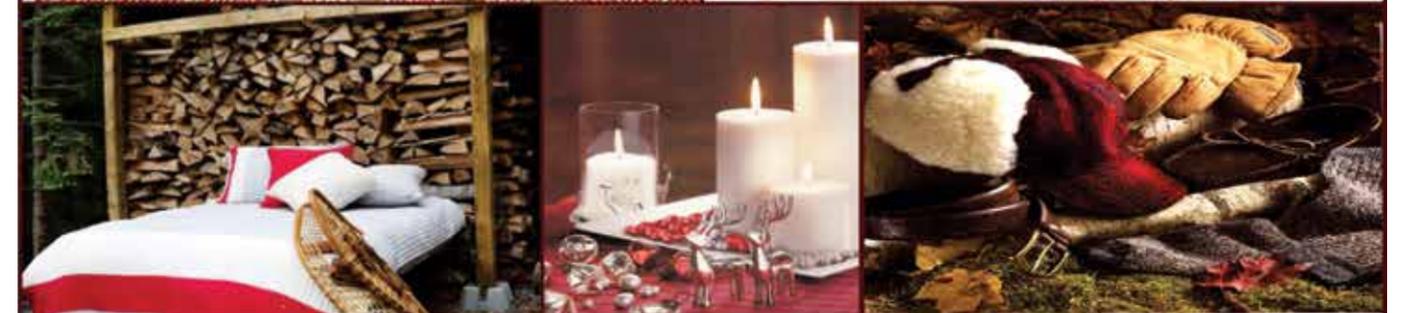
**What are some exterior considerations new cottage owners might consider before winter sets in?** Be ready for snow on your roof – and plan to remove it. Also, anticipate critters; seal up every place of entry into the home. Seal where a pipe or wire enters the building. Use tin covers, or steel wool can work in a pinch. **OH**



# LOCKSIDE Trading Company

All your wishes and much more under one roof

FURNITURE - HOME DECOR - LIGHTING



GIFTWARE - CLOTHING - OUTDOOR GEAR

[www.lockside.com](http://www.lockside.com)



1-888-714-0484  
f Young's Point