


A photograph of a yellow sofa in a room. The wall behind the sofa is heavily damaged, with large sections of white paint peeling away, revealing a brownish substrate. The floor in front of the sofa is also stained and discolored, suggesting water damage. To the right of the sofa, there are two tall, thin, green decorative vases.

PREVENTING WATER DAMAGE

in Your Basement

A wet basement can develop into a complete disaster especially since many maintenance systems are installed in it. For example: electrical wires, water and sewage pipes, garbage disposal etc.

Read these following guide lines to learn how to prevent water damage caused by HVAC systems, ventilation systems, pipes condensations, sump pumps, walls, ceiling, and the foundations. 

Be thorough when performing these inspections and be sure to inspect your basement regularly. Fall is a great time to make sure all your maintenance systems are in good working order, before the cold months are upon us.

HVAC SYSTEMS

Heating and air conditioning systems must be inspected frequently. Check the drain pans and remove debris to allow free flow. Inspect the filters and replace whenever needed. When inspecting the HVAC, look at the ductwork and seal deteriorating insulations.



PIPES CONDENSATIONS

Pipes condensation is a common plumbing problem caused by sweating pipes. This problem promotes mold corrosion and rot if ignored. Insulating your pipes will reduce condensation.

SUMP PUMPS

Sump pump systems in keeping unwanted water out of your home. Check the pump, make sure the outlet pipe is not frozen or clogged and that it directs water away from your home. Clean the air hole in the discharge line and make sure that the motor is running well. Test the pump by filling the sump pit with water to make sure the pump is working properly. Check that the pump is actually pumping out water.



Check Sump Pumps for clogs.

WALLS AND CEILING

Check the walls and look for moisture signs. Moist walls may indicate an internal leak. Look at the walls and search for stains. If you detect stains, follow them to locate the source of the problem and fix it. Even the smallest sign for a leak in the basement must be treated promptly.

VENTILATION

When checking the ventilation systems, be sure to inspect all ventilation systems including water heater, exhaust fans, dryer vents etc. If you suspect any failure in these systems, repair it right away.



Check foundations for cracks and gaps.

THE FOUNDATIONS

Foundations are not always waterproof. Gaps and cracks are created as the house shifts and settles over time. Landscape is also changing over time and may lead to excessive water in the soil around your home. Seek professional help if you need to make any landscape or foundations repairs.

Talk to a restoration specialist if you have extensive water damage. They will be able to repair any damage and help you prevent it from happening again. DYH



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