

# ANNUAL SAFETY TIPS AT A GLANCE

2014			
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Household fires can cause significant damage and claim lives. Install smoke detectors on every floor; test them regularly and change batteries twice a year. Don't leave cooking unattended. Clean the lint in your clothes dryer.	Ice dams can cause significant damage to your roof, shingles, insulation, interior walls and personal property. Ensure that gutters and downspouts are clear and that the attic is properly insulated and ventilated.	Sewer back ups and basement flooding can be devastating and costly. Check your walls, floors, windows and foundations for cracks or leaks. Contact a professional to install an anti-backflow valve in your basement's plumbing system.	There is no better time than spring to organize your home. Clutter can lead to issues including fire hazards and excessive mould. So keep your family safe by getting organized this spring!
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Be prepared when severe weather hits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install a mainline backwater valve.</li> <li>• Review your lot grading.</li> <li>• Ensure your home has weeping tiles, sump-pumps or sump-pits.</li> <li>• Disconnect downspouts and extend them away from your home.</li> </ul>	Every year there are thousands of wildfires in Canada. Keep your lawn free of dead leaves and other debris. Keep a fire extinguisher and install smoke detectors on every floor of your home.	Pools can provide hours of fun, but safety should come first. Don't leave kids unattended. Keep lifesaving equipment close by. Enclose residential pools by a fence at least 1.2 metres high with a self-latching gate.	Outdoor celebrations are a part of Canadian summers. Enjoy your summer celebrations safely and be a responsible host. Serve non-alcoholic cocktails. Choose a designated driver. Offer to have guests spend the night.
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Distracted driving contributes to 8 out of 10 collisions. Keep your eyes on the road and both hands on the wheel at all times. Don't use cell phones, maps or GPS units while driving.	Autumn means it is time to close the cottage for the winter. Be sure to inspect the roof and replace missing or broken shingles. Pack up all food to avoid unwanted animals.	Before turning on the furnace or getting cozy in front of the fireplace this winter, take a few safety precautions. Have your chimney inspected and cleaned. Inspect your furnace, controls and emergency shutoffs.	As you travel during the holidays, keep your home safe. Have your snow removed, and your mail collected while you're away. Keep lights on timers and keep blinds and curtains closed.

