

Whalen

Fire, Smoke, Soot, Water & Mold Remediation Services
Board-up * Cleaning * Deodorizing * Reconstruction

Summer Newsletter 2019



Sunshine Uprise Making Magical Evenings Radiate

T-shirts and sunglasses. Iced coffee and cookouts. Longer days. Warmer nights. What does summer mean to you? For us and other restoration companies we've transitioned out of frozen pipe season and now have our eyes on peak hurricane season ahead. What comes with summer in the meantime? Heat and humidity. Cue in: [mold](#).

Our previous summer newsletter shared tips on [enjoying outdoor fires](#), and last year's weather prompted discussion of how to [protect your property from future flooding events](#). This year with the recent tornado outbreak in the country we bring a reminder to stay prepared for all types of severe weather. We also shed light on a new restoration topic, animal damage.



If you have any questions or suggestions send us an [e-mail](#).
If you tackle any of the monthly to-dos or the seasonal recipe snap a picture and [show us!](#)

Emergency Kits Not just a winter necessity

Power Outage Kit - Storm Kit - Emergency Kit
Although we don't have to worry about freezing pipes and blizzards now, tropical storms and hurricanes are certainly possible and power outages



can happy anytime throughout the year. Even if you checked off all the recommended items last year you still need to maintain your kit by checking expiration dates, updating prescriptions and recharging power supplies. Don't wait for a storm warning and get caught in the panicked rush. [Here's a refresher for you.](#)

Animal Damage That's a restoration job?

When the pitter-patter of little feet is actually more like scurrying of TINY feet... you could have mice in the attic. Not so tiny sounding? You could have raccoons or squirrels! Step 1 is to call pest control. Not only do you want the animals removed, you need to find the source of how they entered and close that up. You love your home and I'm sure they do too, so odds are if there's a way back in they'll find it. Once you are done with that it's time to call a restoration company for professional insulation removal and cleaning. Why?

[Let's talk about it.](#)



Summer Home Maintenance To-Do List

June

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Seal your deck. You will need 3 consecutive warm and sunny days. Give the deck a full day to get nice and dry. On the second day, scrub and clean it early. On the third day, at least 24 hours after cleaning, apply the sealer.
3. Hire a certified chimney sweep. Cleaning and inspecting the chimney now instead of in the cooler fall months allows for time to complete any necessary repairs. It will also be easier to schedule the service since many people wait until just before the heating season.
4. Clean your home's exterior with a mild detergent and a water hose. Pressure washers are great tools but when it comes to siding they are so powerful that they can actually force water underneath encouraging the growth of mold and mildew.
5. **Clean your dryer vent system.** This is a key task for fire safety. Lint is extremely flammable. Open up the back of the dryer and clean in there too. If you're looking for a professional to do it ask your local duct cleaners.
6. Make sure that your motion detector lighting systems and automatic timers are set and working properly. Those automatic timers are particularly important if you plan to be away for any period of time.

[June Printable Version Here](#)

July

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Check for peeling or cracked paint on your exterior walls. South and west facing walls deteriorate the fastest. Paint as needed.
3. Repair any cracks or missing mortar in your brick or masonry siding. You can use fresh mortar or concrete caulk.
4. Check your roof, inside and out, for cracks, loose or missing shingles, or signs of leaks. Pay close attention to valleys around chimneys and around vent stacks.
5. Trim shrubs and branches so that they are not coming in contact with your siding.
6. Repair your driveway where necessary. Cracks in concrete can be sealed with an epoxy patching material, asphalt can be repaired with an asphalt material and driveways should be sealed every other year.
7. Clean your refrigerator inside and out removing all food, shelves, trays and old ice from the

ice maker. Replace the baking soda.

[July Printable Version Here](#)

August

1. Test all of your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
2. Inspect your foundation for signs of termites. Look for tunnels and dirt bridges. If you suspect them call an exterminator right away.
3. Use a vacuum with a narrow nozzle to clean the condenser coils on the back or underneath your refrigerator.
4. Make any necessary faucet repairs. Check for any worn washers and signs of leaking both on top of and underneath the faucet.
5. Clean your range hood and either clean or replace the filter.
6. Replace your air conditioner filter.
7. Hoping to do any interior remodeling projects this fall? Start the planning and estimate collection now so that they can be done early in the season.

[August Printable Version Here](#)

Mark Your Calendars

| <h2>June</h2> <p>Is the month of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Safety Month• Men's Health Month | <h2>July</h2> <p>Is the month of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UV Safety Month• National Parks Month• National Picnic Month | <h2>August</h2> <p>Is the month of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Immunization Awareness Month |
|--|--|---|
| 6/6 – Thursday Nat'l. Drive-in Movie Day | 7/4 – Thursday Independence Day | 8/4 – Sunday National Sister Day |
| 6/8 – Saturday World Oceans Day | 7/21 – Sunday Nat'l. Ice Cream Day | 8/7 – Wednesday Nat'l. Lighthouse Day |
| 6/14 – Friday Flag Day | 7/28 – Sunday Parents' Day | 8/17 – Saturday Nat'l. Nonprofit Day |
| 6/16 – Sunday Father's Day | 7/30 – Tuesday Int'l. Friendship Day | 8/19 – Monday Nat'l Aviation Day |
| 6/21 – Friday Summer Solstice & Int'l. Yoga Day |  | 8/26 – Monday Women's Equality Day & National Dog Day |

CAMPFIRE CONES

by *The Girl Who Ate Everything*
Serves 10

Ingredients

- waffle cones
- mini marshmallows

- chocolate chips
- graham cracker pieces
- Optional toppings: M&Ms, Rolos, peanut butter cups, bananas, strawberries, coconut, brown sugar, butterscotch chips, nuts, anything your imagination can come up with
- foil

Instructions

1. Layer desired waffle cones with toppings and wrap in foil. Toss in the campfire coals for 5-7 minutes or until everything is nice and melted. They can also be baked in the oven at 400 degrees for 5-7 minutes. Can be assembled ahead of time for a fun treat.

Notes: Source: Chef Jessica

What will you layer yours with? Share it with us!



The Girl Who Ate Everything



Don't Take Our Word For It

K.C. of Brewster, MA sent a beautiful thank you card "3/10/19 Dear Whalen Restoration. Thank you for all the wonderful work. You made a difficult time so much easier." [See the actual card here!](#)

Janet & Craig of Harwich, MA wrote us in April. "Dear Bill, Mary, John and Jose, We would like to thank you and your staff for turning what was initially a disaster into an incredibly beautiful dream, much beyond our imagination! Even the nightmare (especially for Craig!) of walking into a steamy, flooded home with a waterfall in the dining room was readily remedied by the immediate arrival of our plumber, quickly followed by your expert team. Beginning on that first evening, you and your staff provided the much-needed assurance that you would help us through the process of restoring our home. You all held your promises and helped make our Cape Cod dream a reality! You and your staff were always professional, attentive and also honest with your opinions regarding our own ideas and we truly appreciate that. We cannot say enough about how wonderful your staff has been to us. We would like to thank Mary for kindly responding to our calls/emails and for conveying our messages to your team. We can't thank John enough for his expertise and attention to detail, as well as his patience and frequent communication with us throughout the entire project. We want to thank Jose for his ideas and beautiful craftsmanship and carpentry. As you well know, we highly value your company's expertise which is why even after our renovation/restorations were completed, we asked you to construct our new deck and fireplace mantel ~ we just love what John and Jose and team did with them both!

Our final thanks goes to you Bill for helping us through the whole process from beginning to end ~ your job of negotiating with insurance companies isn't as "pretty" as a built-in cabinet or fireplace mantel, but without your dedication and persistence, none of it can happen. Thank you also for gathering this wonderful staff and obviously maintaining a culture of pride and excellence in the work that you all do. We are greatly thankful to you all for our "new" home... so until our next "project, feel free to stop by and say hi when you are in our neighborhood!"

A beautiful note on a stunning watercolor card painted by Paul Harrington. [See it here!](#)

[See more testimonials here!](#)

Contact

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[WEBSITE](#)

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Connect with us!



*"Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse and cool the earth,
the air and you."
~ Langston Hughes*

*"And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as
things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over
again with the summer."
~ F. Scott Fitzgerald, The Great Gatsby*

*"One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by."
~ Jeanette Walls, The Glass Castle*

*"The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer, the top of the live-long
year, like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning. The weeks
that come before are only a climb from balmy spring, and those that follow a drop to
the chill of autumn, but the first week of August is motionless, and hot. It is curiously
silent, too, with blank white dawns and glaring noons, and sunsets smeared with too
much color."
~ Natalie Babbitt, Tuck Everlasting*