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# Carroll Valley Borough

e-newsletter

October 8, 2010



Leaves are starting to change!

Every leaf speaks bliss to me, Fluttering from the autumn tree.  
Emily Bronte

## Fall Maintenance Series:

Gutter and Downspout Cleaning - Why It's so Important

As you begin to put together your fall to-do list, make sure to include gutter and downspout cleaning. Why?

1. First there is the most obvious reason. If the gutters are full and the drains are plugged they defeat the purpose of having gutters in the first place. Water will just overflow and cause damage to your landscaping and to the gutter system itself. The weight of the water in the gutter will cause it to pull away from the home and eventually fall off.
2. Wood rot: If the drains are plugged, water could sit in the gutters for weeks. If you have wooden gutters or fascia, these areas will rot first. Secondly, wherever your gutters are overflowing, the splash back effect will cause doorways, garage doors, low to the ground siding and decks to rot.
3. Mosquito infestation. Mosquitoes love stagnant water. If your gutters are plugged they can be an oasis for mosquito larvae to grow and hatch. This can be detrimental to the health and well being of your family and pets as mosquitoes are known carriers of many diseases.
4. Ice dams: Lastly, if your gutters are plugged up when winter sets in, you could be risking thousands of dollars of damage to your home. Ice will fill up the gutters first and then begin to creep up your roof. Once it gets past the ice shield beneath your roof (assuming you have one) the ice will begin to melt from the rising heat in your home. Once it begins



**REMEMBER:**  
**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL**

to melt it will come through your ceilings and walls and it will destroy any finishing's you may have on them. If left unattended this water could destroy your floors and cause considerable mold within the home.

Cleaning your gutter and downspouts can be done in one of two ways: Either by doing it yourself, or hiring a professional.

If you do not feel comfortable climbing up a tall ladder with a garden hose or getting on top of the roof, then don't attempt to clean the gutters yourself. Call a gutter cleaning company to come out and do it for you. It's not that expensive and it will eliminate the risk of you getting injured. Falling off a ladder can cause serious injury. You can easily find someone to do this kind of work in the yellow pages, or look online.

If you do decide to clean your rain gutters yourself, please be careful. You can use a garden hose to wash them out, or you can use a leaf blower and blow them out. This may or may not work very well, depending upon on how much debris is in your gutter.

One thing you'll want to do is make sure you wear safety glasses when doing any kind of gutter and downspout cleaning. You'll have a lot of flying debris and if you're on a ladder then you are right at eye level. Don't take unnecessary chances with your vision.

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## 2011 Budget Process Underway

Borough Staff has been busy putting together a proposed budget for municipal operations in 2011. Fiscal prudence and long range planning efforts have helped the Borough to avoid any tax increases in recent years and should remain the case in 2011. There are several public meetings prior to adoption of the budget: October 19th and 26th are the 2 scheduled public hearings, and October 11th is the Finance Committee meeting which is open to the public. All of these meetings are held in the Borough Office and begin at 7.00 pm. Once approved, the budget will be available online for review.

## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

### Trick or Treat?

As is the case each year, trick or treat night will be observed on October 31st from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

[Click Here for more information](#)



### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wednesday evenings, from 8.30 to 10.30, the Fairfield High School Gym is open for pick-up basketball games. We ask the minimum age of 18 and out of high school. This is for fun and exercise, and all ability levels are invited.

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