

# BPM Home Watch – Fall 2011 Newsletter



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*Floor 'em with service, is our pledge!*

## BPM HOME WATCH

**A Resource for Home Owners**

*Home Watch \* Maintenance*

*Lawn Care \* Cabin Concierge*

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### Home Watch Monitoring

Arrival Service

Storm Checks

Housekeeping

Winterizations

Security Cameras

Pest Control

Lawn Care

Landscape Design

Guttering

Tree Removal

Pressure Washing

Stain / Paint Labor

Re-hab Residential

Properties

New Construction

Property Preservations

Seasonal Maintenance

## Easy Ways to Increase Efficiency

\* Fall is prime time to take advantage of end-of-summer sales to replace or replenish your garden tools, and lawn or patio décor for the coming year.

\* Cooler weather encourages plants to increase root growth as opposed to sprouting foliage. This is the perfect time to relocate woody trees or shrubs that may be encroaching on others. After digging the new hole, add bone meal & a phosphorus-rich fertilizer & soak the root ball with water periodically for a couple of weeks. Don't forget to add mulch to insulate against on-coming winter temps.

\* Bring your heating system up to an efficient speed with a quick service call to BPM so you are not left in the cold when you need a flame the most. Change filters, vacuum registers & address all coils that may be holding dust, pet hair, or crumbs.

\* Repair cracked concrete walkways or driveways. Winter rain [and freezing] will wreak havoc if water accumulates, freezes, and expands. First remove dirt & debris with a wire brush & a shop-vac. Fill small voids in with textured masonry caulk; fill larger voids with masonry patching compound and a trowel, ensure a good seal.

\* Hold a lighted candle at the edge of an interior window or door. If the flame flickers a draft is present. Ensure the frame is not decayed then add caulking or weather stripping & seals where needed, lubricate hinges & garage doors.

\* Plant Spring's bulbs now - that includes tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, etc. Dig the hole 3 times deeper than the bulb is tall. The bulbs need time to acclimate before the first frost. Cover with soil & a coat of mulch to insulate against winter temps. Bigger bulbs typically means bigger blooms.

\* Check backside label on smoke alarms & carbon detectors for expiration date. At the very least replace all batteries in each.

\* Ring BPM for winterization [back drain plumbing, water heaters, washers, etc] and mildew control.

\* Beef up attic or crawl space insulation with fiberglass or blown-in cellulose. All insulation has a tendency to settle with time. In addition to sealing off any visible gaps in framing you may choose to upgrade your insulation R-value where accessible. Even small voids will undermine your chance at efficiency.

\* Apply a coat of textured paint or traction-grit on exposed exterior steps. Polymeric grit products are typically preferred over sand or aluminum oxide grits.

\* Fill propane tanks before winter rates go in effect – clean pilot lite orifices. Chimney sweep flue for all wood burning fire places.



## Fall's To Do List...

In addition to the topics addressed above, the Fall season requires some general preventative measures for all properties – think of the following as winter approaches:

*“I’ve never experienced one company that offers as many services as BPM does - thank you!”*

*Jill - FL*

- Purge gutters, down spouts, drains
- Inspect diseased trees –prune, top, or cut
- Cover HVAC condenser unit, if not in use
- Insulate exposed pipes
- Close crawlspace vents
- Pressure Wash & Water Seal exposed decking
- Cover / stow grills & patio furniture
- Remove water hoses, add insulating cover to bibs
- Flush hot tubs / antifreeze lines *or* maintain minimal economic setting
- Herbicide all broad-leaf weeds
- Prune landscaping
- Test PH of soils, add lime, fertilizer & conditioner where needed
- De-thatch, aerate lawn
- Increase bedding mulch or pine straw
- Final deep watering for large trees/shrubs before 1<sup>st</sup> freeze

## Speedy's Place...

It's always prime-time for updating your lawn décor & accenting your cabin porch!

Pictured here are hand-crafted samples that will add flavor & function to your home in the hills.

For other items of interest from Speedy's Place [*dog houses, bird houses, tool storage bins, raised planter boxes, trash containers, etc*] visit our link at [www.bpmhomewatch.com](http://www.bpmhomewatch.com) or ring Speedy direct @ 706.781.1373.

Most items can be customized to showcase a favorite college team or lettered with a family name. Wholesale pricing is available for commercial vendors.

Mention this BPM newsletter for 10% off any item.



## Its Never Too Late in the Season for... Steak!

### Broiled Salmon Steak, 30 mins

*[Rich in omega 3's and anti-oxidant lycopene]*

- 5/8 cup of extra virgin olive oil
- 2 large yellow onions, cut in 1/4" rings
- 4 medium tomatoes, 1/2" slices
- 8 garlic cloves smashed
- 10 sprigs thyme, 10 sprigs oregano
- salt, pepper as desired
- 4 [10 oz] salmon steaks
- 4 thin slices of lemon
- 2 table spoons of tarragon leaves



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**Pre-heat oven to 450.**

**Line baking sheet with heavy foil & coat with 1/4 cup of olive oil.**

**Spread onions & tomatoes on the sheet next.**

**Tuck garlic, thyme, & oregano sprigs in-between the veggies & drizzle with olive oil.**

**Season veggies with salt / pepper & bake until lightly browned & remove from oven [25 min].**

**Arrange salmon on top of veggies & drizzle with olive oil.**

**Season with salt / pepper & place one lemon ring on each steak, continue with thyme and oregano.**

**Switch to broil mode and return to oven.**

**Lightly brown but be sure to cook thoroughly [5 min].**

**Remove, sprinkle all with tarragon – enjoy!**

## Meet Cherie...

We'd like to introduce you to Cherie, one of our most valued staffers at BPM Home Watch.

Cherie currently manages commercial cleanings for office suites & has been tending to residential house keepings with BPM for 4+ seasons.

She is a native of North Ga & has one daughter named Michelle.

Aside from dancin' to the 80's & spending time with her family, Cherie says the #1 item on her 'bucket-list' [other than BPM retirement] is to visit the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

Oi! - Oi! - Oi!



## In Closing...

*"Thanks again  
for the  
confidence you  
place  
in BPM!"*

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide seasonal tips for all property owners, as well as an attempt to cultivate a better relationship with our friends & acquaintances. If we can ever be a resource please don't hesitate to contact us immediately.

If at any time you choose to be removed from this mailing please indicate accordingly.

We wish you grace and prosperity for the coming season!

*Robert*

Visit us on the Web!

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