

M a r c h

SPRING CLEANING

Mistakes

TO AVOID



This year you're going to do it right! Before diving in, here's a list of common blunders to avoid:

- ◆ **Failure to Plan.**
Plan ahead. Big projects can be overwhelming and you may find yourself skipping around, leaving messes behind. Pick one project. Plan it out. Which room do you want to clean? What day will you clean that room? Tackle the most tedious project first, so you get it out of the way!
- ◆ **Deep Clean Disaster.**
Spring Cleaning is another way to say "get your hands dirty." Try not to avoid the heard to reach areas like ceiling fans or under/behind the fridge. Take the time to do it the right way. You'll feel great after!
- ◆ **Scrub-a-dub-dub.**
Shower mold, mineral deposits, dirty grout and rusty appliances are not impossible to clean but you must use your products as directed. If it says to spray, and leave the product to sit, do that. Let them soak into surfaces before scrubbing.
- ◆ **Window Cleaning.**
A sunny day is not the day to clean your windows. Window cleaner dries faster with heat, leaving streaks behind. Try to save this project for a day below 65 degrees.



DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 3:** Caregiver Appreciation Day
- March 8:** International Women's Day
- 2nd Friday:** National Day of Unplugging
- March 17:** St. Patrick's Day
- March 21:** National Single Parents Day



CINNAMON BANANA NUT Bread

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 pinch salt
4 medium ripe bananas, mashed

1 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup butter, softened
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts,

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray one large nonstick loaf pan with cooking spray or butter.
- In a medium mixing bowl, add flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Whisk together until combined.
- In a large mixing bowl, add mashed bananas, sugar, butter, eggs, and vanilla extract. Whisk together until combined.
- Add flour mixture into banana mixture and stir with a mixing spoon until combined.
- Add the chopped walnuts and fold them into the batter.
- Pour batter into the prepared loaf pan.
- Bake for 60-70 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean.
- Remove from oven and let cool for 10 minutes. Then remove the banana bread from the loaf pan and let cool on a plate or wire rack until completely cooled.



MAINTENANCE TIP!

Spring is in the air! So, get outdoors and get some fresh air while getting your home in shape for the warm weather.

- **Roof TLC:** Once snow and ice have melted, inspect your roof for damage and leaks. Check the attic and chimney for dampness or wetness. Sweep away leaves and debris to prevent water buildup.

- **Septic Tank or Grinder Pump Inspection.** Many of us don't pay attention to our sewer or septic system until it stops working. Have your system inspected annually.

- **Fireplace Maintenance.** With warmer weather upon us, the fireplace will no longer be needed. Shovel out ashes and make sure the damper is closed to prevent drafts, rain or animals from entering your home through the chimney.

- **Tile Grout.** Clean and seal your grout to bring it back to life, looking new, again! You can use a toothbrush or scrub brush with some baking soda and white vinegar to remove stains.

- **Gardening.** Clean and sharpen all gardening tools in preparation for the season coming! Tools in good shape not only make your job easier, they help prevent the spread of garden diseases and pests that may be hiding out in soil.

- **Window Screens.** Repair or put up window screens so you can enjoy the fresh air in your home!

List Now and be Ahead of the **SPRING MARKET!**

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