

## November Home Maintenance and Safety Checklist

The holidays have arrived, and with them comes the bustle of gift shopping, hosting, and for many, snow. Our November home maintenance checklist will help you with safe turkey preparation, winter weather safety, and home security if you're going out of town.

### 1. SPRUCE UP THE KITCHEN

#### Practice safe cooking:

Before you fire up the range for Thanksgiving, make sure your cooking habits are in good shape. Between 2017 and 2021, the NFPA estimated over 158,000 home fires started from cooking. Safe cooking with kids and adults will make your holidays a little brighter.

*continued on page 2*



## Waste Management Keystone Denver Property Management

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Jessica Azzarano, 720-372-1151,  
jazzarano@keystonepacific.com

For budget details, meeting minutes, or to view your account balance, please log in to your Resident Portal at: <https://www.kppmdenver.com/>

## eWaste and Recycling Event Success!

We had great turnout for the eWaste and Recycling event on October 4, with more than 65 HOA members recycling their paper and eWaste! And thank you to the 33 residents who recycled paint with GreenSheen on Oct 11! Together, we recycled thousands of pounds of waste, keeping it out of our landfills.

Paper: Total diverted from landfill = 1,620 lbs.

Electronics: Total diverted from landfill = 3003 lbs.

466 lbs. of CRT TVs

749 lbs. of flat screen TVs

1,094 lbs. in consumer goods

374 lbs. in data bearing items

Paint: Total diverted from landfill = 2,715 lbs. (4 Cubic Yard Boxes)

2,466 lbs. of latex/ acrylic/water-based paint

249 lbs. of oil-based paint



## Kiwanis Club of Columbine

### COMING UP: WE CAN USE HELP!

Meals on Wheels, Sheridan Food, Bank, Action Center Clothes Sorting, blood drive, ushering at the Jeffco Symphony, donating toys to local hospital, and others. We will need a lot of help in December with our Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army, we will ring for about 2 weeks at two King Soopers stores.

If you are looking for a good hands-on service project or would like to meet other active people, check us out. Details about our upcoming projects and social events are in our weekly newsletter, contact [news@columbinekiwanis.org](mailto:news@columbinekiwanis.org) to get added to our newsletter email distribution. To learn more, visit our website at [columbinekiwanis.org](http://columbinekiwanis.org), or join us for a free breakfast at our weekly meeting any Wednesday at 7 AM at 4Gs restaurant, 5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton.

The Kiwanis Club of Columbine is a group of volunteers (70 members) dedicated to improving the lives of children and families in our community. We are serving 6our community with volunteer hours on some fifty active projects and making philanthropic gifts to over twenty different organizations throughout the year. All are welcome to help with any of our projects or attend any of our social events. You do not need to join the club to participate. We have fun, meet new people, and do a lot of good things for our community.

## Home Maintenance, *continued from front page*

### Follow a few of these basic guidelines:

- Keep flammable materials like curtains or rags away from the stove and oven.
- Don't leave cooking unattended.
- Turn off appliances after food is done.
- Read and follow all cooking instructions.
- Have a fire extinguisher ready for emergencies.

### Remove crumbs from the toaster:

The remnants of hundreds of breakfasts lie at the bottom of your toaster, and those crumbs can pose a serious fire hazard. Most toasters have a trap door that allows you to safely remove crumbs and clean the depository.

### Clean out the pantry and refrigerator:

You'll spend a lot of time in the kitchen this season, and an organized space can make your holiday cooking that much easier. Throw away expired food and tame that mess in the fridge. (Plus it will make room for leftovers.)

### Clean the dishwasher:

The dishwasher cleans your dishes, but who cleans it? Give your dishwasher a well-deserved scrub to remove detergent grime and buildup both inside and out. Then run it on the "clean" cycle. Your glassware will thank you.

## 2. TIDY THE BEDROOM

### Launder throw pillows and blankets:

Give your guests the gift of fresh laundry. Wash the sheets, pillowcases, throw pillows, and blankets in your house. Regular washing keeps icky stuff like dust mites at bay and prevents allergens in your home from building.

Also, give blankets and pillow covers a turn in the washing machine.

Some pillows won't hold up to being fully submerged, so you'll have to tackle those with a lint roller and a spot cleaner. After all, fluffing will get you only so far.

### Vacuum under the bed:

It'll be okay. Promise. The only truly scary things under there are dust bunnies. Get some help moving the bed so you can vacuum or sweep underneath. You'll sleep easier at night.

## 3. PREP AROUND THE HOUSE

### Check dryer and hoses for lint:

You should be emptying the lint trap in the dryer every time you do laundry, but keep in mind that not all the fuzz ends up in the filter. Check the dryer and hoses, and clean any lint buildup to prevent your next load from going up in flames.

### Check water softener and add salt if needed:

If you've noticed your water seems to leave spots everywhere, your softener likely needs attention. Add salt only when the reservoir is completely empty.

### Wipe down cleaning equipment:

This may not have occurred to you, but cleaning tools get dirty. Really dirty. Brooms, mops, and vacuums are the workhorses of your house, and they deserve a once-over now and then.

### Wrap the pipes for winter:

If you didn't do it last month, early November is a good time to start preparing. Prevent pipe freezes later in the season by wrapping the pipes in your basement. A water leak detector downstairs can also catch leaks that may happen during the winter.

*continued on page 3*

## Columbine Knolls South II

CKSII HOA, 2851 S Parker Rd, Suite 840, Aurora, CO 80014

### Homeowners Association Board Members are:

**Mike Tignaneli** – President ..... mike@cksii.org

**Matt Lawicki** – Vice President & ACC Chair..... matt@cksii.org

**Andi Elkins** – Secretary & Social Committee Chair..... andi@cksii.org

**Dave LoSasso** – Treasurer ..... dave@cksii.org

**Chris Reynolds** – Member at Large ..... chris@cksii.org

**Gretchen Moore** – Member at Large ..... gretchen@cksii.org

**Alistair Graves** – Member at Large & ACC Member ..alistair@cksii.org

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The CKSII *REVIEW* is published and distributed monthly by the Columbine Knolls South II Homeowners' Association, a non-profit homeowners' association. It has a circulation of 565. To contact any member of the board, please email cksii.info@gmail.com. To contact any member of the ACC, please email cksiihoaacc@gmail.com.

**Copies of the Covenants, ODP and the Architectural Guidelines are available through any Board member or the www.cksii.org website.**

## News Articles

All articles and "Letters to the Editor" must be approved by the editor for publication. No endorsement of any product or service is implied or stated by its inclusion in the newsletter. "Letters to the Editor" must be signed, include a phone number and preferably be 300 words or less. The deadline for news articles is the 15th of the month before the next month's issue. Please email news articles and "Letters to the Editor" to **Renee Cunningham at Renee@cksii.org**.

## WeeCycle Donation Drive

**Wed., Nov. 5, 2025, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Aspen Grove**

Give your gently used baby gear a second life! WeeCycle and Timbuk Toys are teaming up for a special Pop-Up Gear Drive at Aspen Grove (in the parking lot near Timbuk Toys), making it easy for you to donate baby and toddler essentials to families in need.

### What to Donate:

- Gently used baby & toddler clothing (newborn – 5T)
- Diapers & wipes (new & unopened)
- Gear & essentials like strollers, car seats (less than 6 years old), pack 'n plays, and carriers

Every donation helps WeeCycle support Colorado families in need, ensuring all little ones have access to essential items.

## Advertise in this Newsletter!

The deadline for advertisements is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue, except for the Jan. issue which is Dec. 6th.

**Newsletter Connections: 303-979-7499 or  
info@newsletterconnections.com**



To find ad rates and discounts, go to  
**NewsletterConnections.com** or scan QR code.

Appearance of an advertisement in this publication does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the publisher or the association of the goods or services offered therein. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not of the Board of Directors of your association or the publisher. Neither the Board, publisher nor the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

# Home Maintenance, *continued from page 2*

## Polish stair handrail:

Pretty much everyone who has ever been in your house has touched this. Everybody. Grossed out yet? Disinfect, polish, repeat.

## 4. DO A BATHROOM CHECKUP

### Check for leaks around sinks and toilets:

While your toilets and pipes might sweat a bit, anything that's puddling or dripping consistently should be inspected for leaks. The last thing you need is water damage from an unattended gusher.

### Run water and flush toilets in unused spaces:

That bathroom no one ever uses? The toilet probably has quite the ring since you last checked it. Make sure everything is still in tip-top shape and give it a flush.

### Do a deep clean:

Obviously, cleaning the bathroom should be a regular chore. But with guests coming and your schedule filling up, now's the time to really get scrubbing. Deep clean your bathroom by sweeping, mopping, and vacuuming the floors. Use bleach (with gloves) to clean the shower, toilet, sink, and other surfaces.

## 5. CHECK CO AND SMOKE DETECTORS

With all the cooking and activity going on in your house over the holiday, don't forget to test your smoke detectors and CO detectors. A simple test or fresh batteries can keep your main defense against home fires up and running.

## 6. PREPARE FOR WINTER

### Get salt:

Having road salt or ice melt on hand for icy sidewalks or sandbags for vehicles that need a little extra weight is imperative. Don't wait until the next storm blows in to stock up

### Put on snow tires:

You've been putting it off, but if you live somewhere with frequent snowfall, it's time to switch your tires before you're caught on the road in unsafe conditions.

### Prepare an emergency kit for home and car:

If there's one rule of the road, it's that you never know when an emergency will strike, so be prepared with a fully stocked survival kit. Or, grab pre-made at-home emergency kits or car emergency kits, which contain different tools and safety gear.

## 7. PROTECT YOUR PACKAGES

With so many folks doing their holiday shopping online, porches and front steps will be ripe for poaching porch pirates ready to pilfer packages. This year, consider installing a video doorbell to watch for thieves.

Video doorbells can also make it easier for receiving guests and talking to visitors at a distance.



# COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL SHOWCASE

**DECEMBER 2nd**  
6:30 - 8:00 PM

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# Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, November 8, 2025  
10 am - 4 pm  
6201 S. Pierce St., Littleton, CO, 80123

Admission: \$2  
(Kids 10 and under FREE)

## A Fun and Easy Grateful Turkey Craft for Kids!

This grateful turkey craft is one of my favorite crafts for kids! I love it because it is simple and easy to make with toddlers and children. It also lets them say what they are grateful for this Thanksgiving season. It's a great way to introduce gratitude to children and tell them what the Thanksgiving season is about.



### What You'll Need To Make This Grateful Turkey Craft

- Toilet Paper Rolls (one for each kid)
- Scissors
- Colored Paper (Yellow, Brown, Red, Orange, and Green)
- Glue
- Markers
- Googly Eyes (optional)

### How to Make Grateful Turkey Craft

1. Cut the colored paper into 5 feather shapes.
2. Add googly eyes to roll or color the eyes with a marker on the toilet paper roll. You can also color a beak on the roll or cut out a little yellow triangle for a beak and glue it onto the roll.
3. Talk with the child about what it means to be grateful. Ask the child to name what they are thankful for this year. Then write down 5 things they are grateful for on each feather and glue them to toilet paper in a fan shape.
4. Let them dry and find a place in your home to show them off.

## 16th Annual Denver Veterans Day Run, Festival And Parade

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Denver City Park

5K/10K RUN & RIPPETOE RUCK

The Denver Veterans Day Run, Parade and Festival is held to celebrate and honor the brave men and women who have served our country. Our origins stem from a passion to recognize the sacrifices made by our veterans, create a vibrant community event where we can come together in gratitude and support the mission to help Veterans in Colorado create economic vitality through career advancement and entrepreneurship.

This event supports the mission of Colorado Veterans Project focused on supporting Veterans and Transitioning Active Duty in the pursuit of vibrant careers, meaningful employment, and successful entrepreneurship to continue a meaningful life full of purpose and fulfillment.

Our event involves collaboration with veteran and military focused organizations with the support and collaboration of the City of Denver, ensuring a heartfelt and engaging celebration.

—<https://www.denerveteransday.com/>

## Leaf Place Cards

Adorn mini pumpkins with cute leaf name tags. Mix up the colors to create a pretty palette!



*(Clip AD & Save For Later)*



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**contact@key2medicare.com**

Currently we represent 13 organizations which offer 138 products in the state of Colorado. You can always contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for help with plan choices.



# 10 Tips For Raising Grateful Kids

Saying thank you is one of the first social rules many parents teach their children, and for good reason. We want our kids to be appreciative and not take things for granted, and learning to be grateful can improve kids' relationships, ability to empathize, and overall happiness. If you are looking for ways to reinforce the importance of gratitude or would like to find other meaningful ways your kids can show appreciation, here are some tips:

**1. Set an example.** Kids learn a lot from watching their parents. Show them what it means to be grateful by offering a genuine "thank you!" to a waitress who serves your food, a helpful neighbor, someone who holds the door open for you. But don't stop there — include your kids, too. Thanking children for doing things that are helpful, even when they are chores like putting away toys, reinforces the behavior and lets them know they're appreciated.

**2. Point out generosity.** Call attention to it when people (including your kids!) do things that go beyond what's expected — helping without being asked, being especially thoughtful, or taking extra time to do something because it's important to someone else. Send the message that you will notice if they knock themselves out for you, or for someone else.

**3. Have a talk.** Try asking your child how they feel when people say thank you to them for doing something nice, and then how they feel when they don't.

**4. Find fun ways to say thanks.** There are lots of ways to show gratitude. If your child isn't comfortable talking to strangers or has a hard time expressing themselves in writing, work together to come up with a different way for them to show

their appreciation. They could try giving a smile or a thumbs up if someone holds the door, or show grandma how much they love their new coat by drawing a thank you picture (or taking a smiling selfie!) instead of writing a card.

**5. Share the love.** Encourage kids to think of people who help them, from coaches to neighbors to the local firemen, and say thanks with cookies or cupcakes.

**6. Put things in perspective.** Talk to your kids about those who are less fortunate. Understanding that not everyone has the same advantages will help them develop compassion for others and gratitude for their own privileges.

**7. Let kids choose.** Encourage kids to turn their interests into action. Whether it's a fundraising drive at school, a bake sale, or a run for charity, expressing their interests and using their skills for a good cause is a great way to boost their confidence and give them a chance to give back at the same time.

**8. Get involved.** If kids are too young to go alone or aren't comfortable dealing with strangers solo, make giving back a family affair. Find places where you can volunteer together or let your child choose a charity to donate to.

**9. Make gratitude part of bedtime.** When you tuck them in at night, ask your child to tell you three things they're grateful for. Even if they've had a bad day it will help them — and you — end each day on a positive note.

**10. Give kids credit.** Be mindful of the fact that your child may have their own way of expressing gratitude, even if it doesn't fit your expectations.

—<https://childmind.org/article>



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## The 15 Must-Dos Of Fall Yard Cleanup

**1. Clean out debris.** Clear out flower beds of leaves, etc. to keep the critters away from your house. Pay special attention to rose beds, as their foliage can foster disease over the winter.

**2. Clean up the vegetable garden.** After the final harvest, pull out old vegetable plants and remove debris. Now is the time to prep your soil for maximum yield next season.

**3. Trim rogue branches.** Trim up dead, damaged, or diseased branches. Prune out-of-place tree branches that may cause trouble during the winter.

**4. Clean out the gutters.** Before the rain and snow start falling, clear out the leaves and other debris from your home's rain gutters. Check for proper drainage, clear out any blockages with a small garden trowel, and rinse with a hose.

**5. Dry everything out.** Drain all water from hoses, fountains, drip irrigation, and other water features, and store them in a dry place. Don't forget to blow out those sprinklers!

**6. Aerate the lawn.** Break up soil to keep water from pooling and guarantee that nutrients will reach the roots over the winter.

**7. Feed the lawn.** Send your yard into winter with the nutrients it needs to survive the long, cold sleep. Add a fall lawn fertilizer with high phosphorous content to encourage root growth and enjoy a lush, green lawn come spring.

**8. Rake and mulch.** Left alone, leaf litter can suffocate the grass. So, rake them up, shred them, and use them as mulch for young trees, shrubs, and flower beds to provide a boost of nutrients, help with weed control, and keep roots warm. You might even be able to skip the raking part if you use a lawn mower to mulch the leaves in your yard.

**9. Prune trees and shrubs.** Trim any dead branches and cut back overgrown trees and bushes during your fall clean up routine. For fall bloomers, you may want to wait until they've stopped flowering, which can be late winter or early spring.

**10. Give it one last mow.** Set your mower to a low setting and give the lawn a close buzz before winter sets in.

**11. Divide and cut back perennials.** Divide plants and add them to other beds where they will also do well. This saves money and time in the spring. Fall-blooming perennials like chrysanthemums shouldn't be divided now—wait and divide them in the spring.

**12. Protect cold-sensitive plants.** Keep sensitive perennials, shrubs, and roses in top shape through the cold days of winter. Add mulch to the base and wrap plants in cloth barriers to prevent damage from freezing.

**13. Plant bulbs, shrubs, and fall annuals.** If you want to add new shrubs or spring bulbs like hyacinth, now is the time to get them in the ground. Fall annuals are also a great addition to keep some color in your yard as other plants go to sleep.

**14. Protect the deck.** Prevent mold and mildew by giving the deck a good power wash. Once the deck is clean and dry, add a weatherproofing stain to protect the wood from moisture damage over the winter.

**15. Clean tools and store them.** Plants get diseases just like humans and animals. All-purpose cleaner or rubbing alcohol can disinfect small tools like pruners and loppers while you can use bleach for larger metal tools like shovels.

—<https://www.safewise.com>



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Classified ads are \$4.00/line (about 40 characters/line). Contact Newsletter Connections at **303-979-7499** or [info@NewsletterConnections.com](mailto:info@NewsletterConnections.com) to place an ad. To view our display ad prices, visit our website at [NewsletterConnections.com](http://NewsletterConnections.com). The deadline for placing a classified or display ad is the 15th of the month for the next month's issue (i.e., 15th of Sept. for Oct. issue), except the January issue, which has a deadline of December 6th. Residents placing ads to sell household items are not charged a fee.

## Free Pumpkin Collection

After Halloween, don't let your pumpkins simply rot away – turn them into compost! Drop off begins on Monday, November 3 and continues until Friday, November 14. Visit our website at <https://a1organics.com>. Bring your pumpkins to us! Participating in our Pumpkin Recycling Initiative is easier than you might think. Households may drop off pumpkins at any retail A1 Organics facility for FREE!

- Only 10 pumpkins or less per household (standard tipping rates will apply for large volumes).
- Please ensure that all pumpkins are free of paint, foil, and candles.
- No contamination allowed.

### Location:

A1 Organics Mountain States  
2300 W. Radcliff Avenue  
Sheridan, CO 80110

### Hours:

Monday - Friday • 7:00am-4:00pm  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

*We should just be thankful for being together.  
I think that's what they mean by Thanksgiving.*

–Charlie Brown

## This Space Intentionally Left Blank for Teen Services

### Annie

**Nov. 21, 2025 – Dec. 28, 2025, Town Hall Arts Center**

Join us for a heartwarming family-friendly favorite, this holiday season! Always a crowd-pleaser, this classic musical comedy follows the adventures of “Little Orphan Annie,” a plucky little girl based on the beloved 1924 cartoon character, who is determined to find her parents. Along with Oliver “Daddy” Warbucks; his Earth-bound angel of an assistant, Grace; a trio of some of musical theater’s most evil (and hilarious) villains led by the infamous Miss Hannigan; and, of course Annie’s lovable pup Sandy, Annie’s journey to family is filled with laughter, hope, and unforgettable earworms like Tomorrow and Easy Street. This timeless tale of optimism and resilience reminds us all that no matter how difficult life gets, a chance for something better is only a day away!

–<https://townhallartscenter.org/event/annie/>



Recent CKSII Market Activity CSN: Coming Soon | A: Active | P: Pending | C: Closed

St	Close Date	Address	Bd	Bth	Ttl	SQ FT	Price
A		<a href="#">8055 S Zephyr Way</a>	5	5	4,514		\$1,179,000
A		<a href="#">8129 S Yukon Street S</a>	4	4	3,663		\$1,165,000
A		<a href="#">8145 S Zephyr Way</a>	4	3	4,639		\$1,145,000
A		<a href="#">7844 W Friend Drive</a>	6	4	4,142		\$1,075,000
A		<a href="#">7830 W Friend Place</a>	5	5	4,282		\$995,000
A		<a href="#">7636 S Allison Court</a>	6	4	3,105		\$849,900
A		<a href="#">8128 S Yukon Street</a>	4	3	4,047		\$810,000
A		<a href="#">7740 W Phillips Avenue</a>	5	4	3,802		\$785,000
A		<a href="#">7632 S Balsam Court</a>	4	3	3,751		\$765,000
P		<a href="#">8160 W Phillips Avenue</a>	4	4	4,155		\$989,900
P		<a href="#">7758 W Chestnut Place</a>	5	4	4,123		\$989,500
C	08/04/2025	<a href="#">7863 W Friend Drive</a>	4	4	4,301		\$885,000
C	08/22/2025	<a href="#">8288 W Chestnut Avenue</a>	6	4	3,524		\$815,000

CKSII Market Stats

	Average Sales Price	Average Days on Market	# Homes Sold
2025 YTD	\$925,100	59	12
2020	\$609,110	15	21
2018	\$578,583	28	18

*Hello neighbor,*

I'm not just another real estate agent, I'm also your neighbor, an active volunteer in our community and a top performing REALTOR® for the last 10 consecutive years! I'd love to offer my services and resources to you or those you know looking for outstanding service and market knowledge. From your 1st home to cross country relocation, upsizing, downsizing and everything in-between, I'll provide the service excellence you deserve! I look forward to serving you through every chapter of your real estate story!



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"Jennifer was outstanding and made the sale of our home go smoothly. We would use her again and/or recommend her in a heartbeat!!!!" - Seller in CKSII



*Jennifer Blake* your CKSII Real Estate Specialist

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