

# CLEAN-UP PAINT-UP FIX-UP



## Clean-Up Proclamation for Farmington City, Township

WHEREAS: the Township and City of Farmington are very interested in making this the most beautiful community in South-eastern Michigan all citizens are being urged to stop littering and keep up their properties and

WHEREAS: one of the chief purposes of a clean-up, paint-up, fix-up campaign annually in the community is to stress to all residents the importance of getting off to a good start and then making the clean up program a continuous effort the year around and

WHEREAS: beautification efforts in Farmington City and Township have improved considerably in recent years there is still much to be done to make our total community one we can be proud of as a very cleanly community and

NOW THEREFORE: we, Curtis H. Hall, Farmington Township Supervisor, and Wilbur V. Brotherton, Mayor of the City of Farmington, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 1968, as

### CLEAN-UP, FIX-UP, PAINT-UP MONTH

and hereby urge every citizen to fully cooperate by participating in the program planned for Farmington City and Township this year and join with the various organizations and business people who are working to make this a very successful program.

WILBUR V. BROTHERTON, Mayor CURTIS H. HALL, Supervisor  
City of Farmington Township of Farmington



## Spring Clean-Up Tips to Help Do The Job Better

The Annual Clean-Up Campaign is on again, and you can do your share toward making your home and your community a better place to live by following these few simple suggestions, says the American Insurance Association.

**YOU CAN START** the clean-up job in your own attic. This is frequently a place where old newspapers, furniture, and other discarded combustibles collect. Go through the newspapers and old magazines, and throw out those you no longer want. There will be a new newspaper arriving tomorrow, and new magazines next week or next month.

**ALSO, LOOK AROUND** the attic and see if there is any clothing you will never wear. Throw it out or give it to a charitable organization which, in turn, will pass it on to some needy person or sell the garment for rags. Many charitable

organizations make a good income through selling old newspapers and rags, and you can help the charity by turning these old combustibles into useful dollars.

**CHECK THE ATTIC** light. If it is not working right, have it repaired by a qualified electrician.

**NOW, CHECK FIRE** hazards that may exist in the bedroom closets. If there are old blankets or worn out sheets and other items you may never use again, throw these out, too, or give them to a charitable organization. And, incidentally, never step into unlighted closets with lighted candles, or matches. Always use a flashlight. In fact, it is a good plan to keep a flashlight on the shelf in closets that are frequently used.

**IN BEDROOMS**, too, check lights, extension cords and switches, and have them repaired by a qualified service

man if they are not in good operating order. Window air conditioners should be serviced at least once a year by a qualified maintenance man to be sure the unit is well lubricated and will run smoothly. A dry over-heated bearing in a motor can cause an unwanted fire. In bedrooms, too, throw out old newspapers and magazines if they have accumulated.

**IF YOU HAVE SMOKERS** in your home, make sure that there are plenty of ash trays in every room, including the bedrooms. And keep in mind that one should never smoke in bed. Matches and smoking are a leading cause of fires, and are responsible for one out of every five fires.

**IN THE LIVING ROOM** and dining room, as in the bedroom, make sure that all electrical equipment is in working order. Check extension cords if you use them, and never run them

under rugs, over books or nails or in any place where they might be subject to war or damage. Remember, American Insurance Association studies show that every fifth fire is caused by misuse of electricity. **IN THE KITCHEN** all electrical equipment should be checked. If you use a gas range, make sure the pilot light is working properly. If you have a towel rack, it should never be placed where towels will hang over an open flame. Keep range ovens, broilers and burners free of grease, and if you have a grease container it should be kept away from the range.

**BASEMENTS**, like attics, are places where unneeded combustibles accumulate. Throw out any old newspapers or magazines that have collected there during the winter. Store flammables like cans of paint in a corner well away from the household heating unit. If you

have been painting, and have oily rags, empty paint containers or worn out brushes, throw them out.

If you have an attached garage, cleaning it up is part of the over-all job. If oil has dripped on the garage floor during the winter, clean it up and scour the oil-stained spot with a grease-cutting detergent. If you keep gasoline in the garage for use in a power lawn mower or an outboard motor boat, be sure you keep it in a container listed by Underwriters Laboratories. If it is listed, it will bear the U.L. label.

**WHEN YOU CLEAN UP** your yard, place your rakes on the curb where they can be picked up by the trash collector. It is advisable not to burn leaves. Most communities prohibit outside fires or require the homeowner to get a permit to burn leaves or trash. One reason civic authorities

oppose leaf burning is that the smoke from the fire adds to the contamination of air already polluted to an uncomfortable degree. Another reason is that the sparks from an outside fire, if carried by the wind, can start another fire some distance away.

If you are in a locality which permits the burning of leaves, never start a fire on a windy day. And before you start it, be sure the garden hose is hooked up to the faucet and ready for use in case the fire gets out of hand.

**A FINAL NOTE:** If you have checked your house from top to bottom as suggested here, and if you have thrown out unneeded combustibles, you have reduced the fire hazards in your home, and, at the same time, made it a pleasanter place in which to live.

## Know The Do's and Don'ts Or Don't Do-It-Yourself.

**DON'T** use flammable, quick-drying lacquers, near heaters or pilot lights of gas stoves.

**DO** repair corroded gutters with glass fiber cloth soaked in resin.

**DON'T** use a small brush for a big surface. For big, flat areas use a brush at least 4 inches wide.

**DO** precondition a new brush by suspending it in linseed oil for 12 to 24 hours. It will hold more paint. Squeeze out oil and dip into turpentine to remove excess.

**DON'T** try to paint into tricky corners with a roller. Do the fancy stuff with a brush.

**DO** use an old nylon stocking for straining lumps out of paint.

**DON'T** dip your paintbrush all the way into can. Halfway in is right. Otherwise the paint

will run into heel of brush, and it will be difficult to clean out.

**DON'T** paint the outside of your house if it's too cold or too hot. Between 50 degrees and 90 degrees is okay. In summer, paint in the shade.

**DO** paint over wallpaper (if it isn't too loose) with alkyl or latex paint. Use two coats to hide the design.

**DO** pour thinners or turpentine with the spout at the top of the rectangular can. Pouring with the spout on the low end causes dribbling.

**DON'T** remove asphalt tile laid over cement if you want to install oak parquet flooring. Just cement the wood squares over the old tile.

**DON'T** scrub hardwood floors with soap and water. Floors may raise grain or warp or stain the wood.

**DO** ground power tools before using them. If the tool "shorts," the electricity will pass through the grounded tool instead of you.

**DO** clean the soot out of your chimney once a year. Burning flashlight cells or rock salt in your fireplace now and then will help keep soot formation.

**DON'T** use low-grade lumber if you intend finishing it natural. Buy No. 1 or No. 2 clear. (No. 2 common is okay if you plan to cover with paint.)

**DON'T** try to patch masonry dry. Wet it down well before filling cracks with cement. DO remove rust stains from cement patios or walks. Use scrub brush with lemon juice and salt on rust spots.

**DO** rub protective cream into your hands and arms before you start painting. Makes

it easier to wash the paint off your skin afterwards.

**DON'T** resculc the outside of your house over the old caulking. Scrape out the old dried-out stuff first.

**DO** paint seats and backs of metal porch chairs white. Then you won't get a hot seat next time and sit down in your swim suit. White reflects heat away.

**DON'T** scrunch down on your hands and knees to paint a floor. Get yourself a long-handled paint roller and spread the paint on from a dignified standing position. Good for ceilings, too.

**DON'T** make the family wait for the stairs you've just painted to dry. Paint every other step and they can go up two steps at a time. After the first steps dry, paint the others.

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"TAKE TO HOLD UP THE TROUT" SEASON, BUT SPRING CLEAN-UP.

AMERICAN INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

## Check List for Clean Up Drive

The South Farmington Township Civic Association and other local organizations actively participating in the annual Clean-Up, Fix-Up, Paint-Up Campaign urge you to clip out and use this check list in doing your part in the community clean-up effort. Rate yourself.

	Good	Fair	Poor
1. Mail box (upright, painted)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Yard free of debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Condition of drive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Scrap or junk cars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Condition of walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Garbage disposal provided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Burners, Garbage cans screened by shrubbery, fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Neatness of lawn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Neatness of back yard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Plantings around house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Paint on house (inside-out)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Trees pruned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Roadway to house	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Condition of neighborhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. General appearance of our property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You are urged to not only join in the clean-up campaign in May but to keep this check list around as a reminder of the jobs to keep working on throughout the year if you can not check good in back of all the items listed above.

## Suggestions for Good Clean-Up

The fix-up committee of the South Farmington Township Civic Association's May Clean-Up Campaign Committee have made several suggestions to residents as to what jobs they should strive to get done during the month of the campaign.

These are the suggestions:

1. All drainage ditches in front of residents' homes should be cleaned of refuse and then kept that way.
2. Fences should be painted and repaired.
3. Broken glass in any windows in the house or in auxiliary buildings should be replaced. Most home insurance policies provide for glass breakage, it was pointed out.
4. The exteriors of homes and auxiliary buildings should be painted if necessary.
5. Unwanted bushes or other growth should be trimmed or

removed from around fence rows or on other parts of your property.

6. Eaves-droppers, mail boxes and rubbish and garbage containers should be painted and repaired or replaced.

7. Adjacent vacant lots should be policed and unsightly growth or trash removed.

### IN CASE OF FIRE

At home — Quickly get everybody out of the house. Call the fire department immediately. (The sure everyone in your family knows how to call the fire department.)

At public gatherings — Wait, do not run, to the nearest exit. Call the fire department immediately. Keep Calm.

—American Insurance Association