



### **Help Keep Your Old House in Top Shape with this Summer Maintenance Check List**

- Clean out gutters, check functionality of downspouts and water discharge area
- Evaluate grade around house and improve drainage if needed, add downspout extensions
- Check outdoor faucets for leaks
- Raise/store storm windows, make repairs now if necessary
- Start dehumidifier in your basement if relative humidity is elevated (target R.H. 50-60%)
- Check for adequate ventilation in attic
- Inspect roof for damage and leaks
- Check windows, repair any cracked glass and re-glaze and paint where needed
- Trim all trees and vegetation around house so there is ideally at least 2-3 feet clearance
- Inspect clapboards, replace cracked or severely damaged, spot scrape, sand and paint where needed (if clapboard replacement is required, use quality quartersawn replacements)
- Gently wash dirt and mold growth off wood siding and trim, mild soap and TSP substitute works well on wood surfaces, power washing not recommended because of potential for water infiltration and damage to wood
- Closely inspect exterior of house, basement and attic for insect infestation, treat where necessary for carpenter ants, termites and powderpost beetles with non-toxic (to humans and animals) Boracare.

Questions or suggestions? Call us at 603-224-2281.

More information at [www.nhpreservation.org](http://www.nhpreservation.org)