Before we think about InspectionWorld, let's look ahead to October for our Leadership Development Conference this October 25-27, 2018 in Des Plaines, IL. This is shaping up to be a truly awesome event. Our education team has put together a great event and you'll need to mark your calendar now to make sure you don't miss this event.
**Offer runs - 6/11 - 6/18/18:**

Celebrate your Dad and Grad with cool technologies from Lenovo. The perfect gadgets and gifts up to 33% off from June 11-18, 2018.


Call: 1-800-426-7235, ext. 3569 (M-F: 9am-9pm ET, Sat: 9am-6pm ET)

*Be sure to check the website often - special offers change frequently.*

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**Top 5 Things To Include In Your Pre-Inspection Agreement**

Pre-inspection agreements are home inspectors’ foundations. Without them, clients are left to assume the nature of inspections. And as inspector and mentor Jan Banks stated in a previous article, clients for whom expectations aren’t set often believe inspections are warranties. That leaves inspectors subject to a lot of unnecessary risk.

But simply having an inspection agreement doesn't necessarily mitigate a home inspector’s risk. Home inspectors need thorough contracts that cater to their specific state law to successfully avoid potential claims.

Below, we list some of the important provisions to include in pre-inspection
agreements. The list isn’t exhaustive and does not acknowledge requirements by state. The list can, however, provide inspectors with the groundwork to begin a conversation with knowledgeable, local legal counsel to craft or revise their home inspection contract language.

What to include

**Exclusions**

Exclusions are exactly what they sound like; they’re items of risk specifically not covered by a contract to avoid excessive liability.

The American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) Standard of Practice (SOP) helps determine a typical inspection’s scope. By outlining what inspections are and aren’t, the SOP gives inspectors ground to stand on when excluding elements in their contracts... **READ MORE**

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**Top 5 Tasks for June**
by Applica / Home Wizard

If your clients or real estate agent contacts ask you for the top routine maintenance tasks that they should do during the month of May, here are the ones that we suggest, that will help keep your home safe, looking nice, and operating properly.

**Security System**

If you have a home security system, then in June (before the summer vacation season) we recommend that you do some basic routine maintenance for your home security system. First, you should contact your security monitoring company and confirm with them that they have the
correct contact information for you and the correct password. You should also check the expiration date on your system's backup battery, and perform tests to confirm the proper performance of your system. And lastly you should confirm that all family members know how to properly use all of the features of your security system.

To learn more about taking care of your home security system, you can see the Security System section of our Home Care Library.

Late Spring Lawn Care

Early in June is a good time to apply late spring fertilizer and weed control. You can read our lawn care suggestions here: Late Spring Lawn Care Guide. And you can read our related lawn care articles here: Lawn Care Articles.

Personal Computer Maintenance

June is also a good month to remind yourself to perform the necessary monthly routine maintenance for your home computers. Items that should be done on a monthly basis include: backing up your hard drive; updating your virus protection; defragmenting your hard drive; and testing your surge control devices.

For additional information on caring for your personal computer, you can see the Personal Computer section of our Home Care Library.

Dishwasher Maintenance

Every couple of months it is important to treat your dishwasher for scale build up. If you are not doing this routinely, then at least once a year you should still check your dishwasher for scale build up, and treat it accordingly (helpful accessory: dishwasher cleaners).

For tips on how to treat the types of scale that you might have in your particular dishwasher, you can see:
Dishwasher Routine Care

Fireplace Maintenance
And finally if you have a traditional wood-burning fireplace, June is a great month to have your chimney cleaned and inspected. The reason to do this at the beginning of the summer is because if any significant problems are found, then you will have plenty of time to get bids and get the work completed before you start to need your fireplace again in the fall.

NEWS from ASHI HQ
Consumers' Checkbook (checkbook.org) conducted undercover reviews of home inspectors by posing as prospective buyers and reporting on inspectors’ thoroughness and professionalism in one area of the country. Consumers’ Checkbook is published by the Center for the Study of Services, an independent, nonprofit consumer organization founded in 1974. ASHI is not involved in conducting these undercover reviews, but we wanted to make you aware of them. This organization is now sharing this information to all of its local markets. The American Society of Home Inspectors is not a direct target, but the whole industry is affected...READ MORE
Reminder: Vote for the ASHI Radon Standard

As an ASHI member, it is your duty to help shape the industry you work in. To that end, as a voting ASHI member, you'll be receiving a separate email with a link that is just for you to vote on the new Radon Standard. Please take a few moments to read through the new standard and vote on whether we should or should not have this standard in place for radon.

These are your Standards that you will be adhering to in all your future inspections. You have the right to vote, please do so!

ASHI Groupon Perk

One of the many perks of membership in ASHI is an extra discount off Groupon. ASHI members receive an additional 20% off local deals and an additional 10% off
getaways. Visit: Groupon and use the code: **Member20** / or for Getaways use code: **GONOW10**

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**ASHI Chapters**

Whether you're a member of an [ASHI chapter](#) or not, now is the time to get involved. Be integral in shaping the home inspection profession in your area. Get involved with your ASHI Chapter Board, take part in the CoR, attend great meetings and learn a thing or two (or provide education) to your peers. Meet new people who can help you grow your business. **If you know someone who is not yet an ASHI member (and has never been one) and you want them to join your chapter - they get a FREE year of membership at ASHI! This special offer is ending July 31, 2018.**

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**Quick Tip #58**

**Why Is The Toilet Flushing Itself?**

OK, so you just heard the toilet flush in the middle of the night. No one else is in the house, and you don’t think your home has a ghost. Later that night, you hear it again. Ughhh. How will you explain this to the plumber?

Don’t worry. What you’re probably hearing is the toilet refilling as if it had been flushed.
But how is that possible?

Water in the tank is slowly leaking past the flush valve and into the bowl. As the bowl fills, the water silently flows down the drain line. When the water in the tank gets low, the automatic fill valve opens and you hear the tank filling – just as if the toilet had been flushed.

The fix is simple: clean or repair the flush ball or flap valve. At times, the problem can be fixed just by wiping deposits off the mating surfaces. Other times you’ll need to replace the valve because of a crack or surface imperfection. If you want to test for this type of silent leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Within a short time, you’ll notice the color in the bowl – a sure sign of a leaking flush valve.

What is GDPR? Everything You Need To Know About The New General Date Protection Regulations by ZDnet

What does GDPR stand for? General Data Protection Regulation.
In January 2012, the European Commission set out plans for data protection reform across the European Union in order to make Europe 'fit for the digital age'. Almost four years later, agreement was reached on what that involved and how it will be enforced.

One of the key components of the reforms is the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This new EU framework applies to organisations in all member-states and has implications for businesses and individuals across Europe, and beyond.

"The digital future of Europe can only be built on trust. With solid common standards for data protection, people can be sure they are in control of their personal information," said Andrus Ansip, vice-president for the Digital Single Market, speaking when the reforms were agreed in December 2015.

What is GDPR?

At its core, GDPR is a new set of rules designed to give EU citizens more control over their personal data. It aims to simplify the regulatory environment for business so both citizens and businesses in the European Union can fully benefit from the digital economy.

The reforms are designed to reflect the world we're living in now, and brings laws and obligations - including those around personal data, privacy and consent - across Europe up to speed for the internet-connected age.
Fundamentally, almost every aspect of our lives revolves around data. From social media companies, to banks, retailers, and governments -- almost every service we use involves the collection and analysis of our personal data. Your name, address, credit card number and more all collected, analysed and, perhaps most importantly, stored by organisations.

What is GDPR compliance?

Data breaches inevitably happen. Information gets lost, stolen or otherwise released into the hands of people who were never intended to see it -- and those people often have malicious intent.

Under the terms of GDPR, not only will organisations have to ensure that personal data is gathered legally and under strict conditions, but those who collect and manage it will be obliged to protect it from misuse and exploitation, as well as to respect the rights of data owners - or face penalties for not doing so...READ MORE