

Pre-Winter Basement Protection Checklist

Icy Reno Waterproofing | icyreno.ca

1

Test sump pump - pour 20L into pit

Pump should activate in seconds. No response: check power then float switch. Replace pumps over 7-10 years old.

2

Verify battery backup is charged

Unplug main pump and repeat bucket test. Replace battery every 3-5 years.

3

Check foundation grading

Soil should drop 6 inches over first 10 feet from house. Add topsoil to low spots before freeze.

4

Clean eavestroughs and extend downspouts

Downspouts should terminate 6-10 feet from foundation. Clear debris before freeze.

5

Inspect and clean window wells

Clear debris, check drain, add fresh gravel if silted. Consider dome covers for winter.

6

Walk basement perimeter for new cracks or moisture

Document with photos. Any crack wider than a pencil or showing moisture: get assessed before spring.

