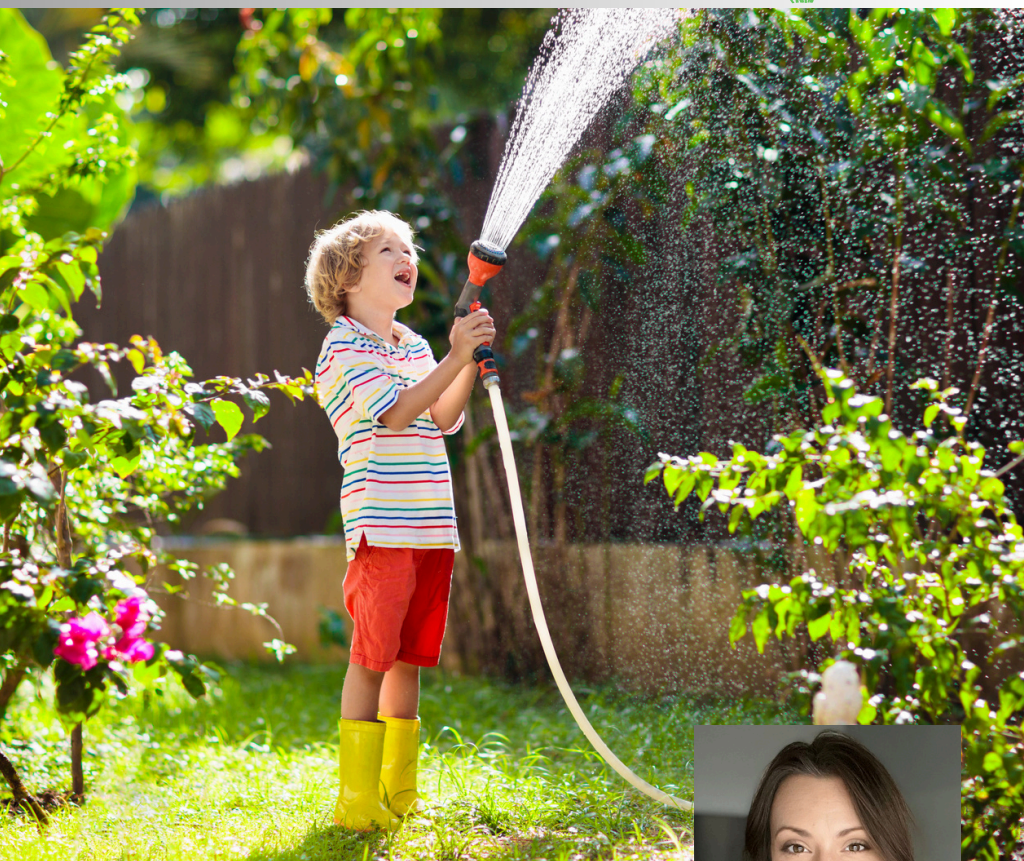


A HOW-TO GUIDE

# DIY Spring Plumbing Maintenance



**SPOT ON**  
PLUMBING  
Your Dog's Favorite Plumber™



Caitie Brown  
Co-Owner and Plumbing  
Apprentice



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## INTRODUCTION

# Hello, Caitie & Brandon Brown Here!

We founded Spot On Plumbing in February 2017. Brandon had a vision to have a company where the customer wins, the technician wins and the Company Wins! He wanted to start a business that was more focused on personal and professional development so that he could empower his plumbers to seek knowledge and wisdom that was based on serving our customers well. We truly believe that we need more good people in the trades. There are currently less than 1,600 licensed journeyman plumbers in Oklahoma. We hope to make a positive impact and help increase the licensed plumbers for our state. We believe that properly ran business ethics will help the amount of quality plumbers increase.

Education and proper training starts with the business owners and ends with the business owners. That is why we have dedicated our company to be a part of the solution not adding to the problem. At Spot On Plumbing we help empower the customers to learn about their plumbing systems as much as possible so they can take control of their plumbing maintenance. Helping homeowners save thousands of dollars by simply living by the rule of preventative maintenance is always less expensive than emergency repairs. We are excited about the future of your home and journey of homeownership. We hope to become a valuable asset in your home service needs.



*-Brandon & Caitie*



## CHAPTER I

# Checking the outdoor plumbing

## What is considered “outdoor plumbing?”

Outdoor plumbing is... you guessed it, anything that is located on the outside walls of your home. This includes drains, exterior faucets, gutters, & downspouts. In the winter, various debris, including dried leaves, sticks, twigs, and other elements, tends to gather on your roof and outdoor areas. With the return of warmer weather, now is the opportune moment to remove accumulated debris from your outdoor drains, gutters, and downspouts. By ensuring unobstructed water flow through the drains, you can prevent potential plumbing issues.

## Before you turn on your outside faucets:

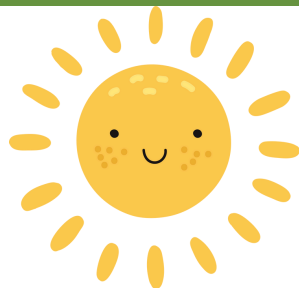
We recommend calling Spot On Plumbing so they can perform a pressure test to make sure that there are no leaks and the faucets are safe to turn on. With any service call we provide a whole home evaluation so we can make sure you are leak free. If you discover any concerns we can provide you a few different options that are budget friendly and always less expensive than emergency repairs.

Have a second person inside the home located next to the interior wall where the outside faucet is. Have them make sure they don't see any visible water. Using a tissue paper next to the baseboard is a great tool to use to see even the smallest leaks. They can also listen for sounds of dripping or spraying. If you notice that your water pressure is lower on the outside faucet you need to immediately turn the water off to the exterior faucet and call Spot On Plumbing so we can check and make sure there are no leaks.



## CHAPTER 2

# Evaluate your indoor plumbing

**Easy to inspect your indoor plumbing!**

Begin your inspection by checking for any visible leaks. Examine pipes under sinks, around toilets, and beneath appliances like dishwashers and washing machines. Look for water stains or puddles around these areas, as they may indicate leaks.

Additionally, check the water supply lines and connections for any signs of moisture or corrosion.

**Check your faucets:**

Go through all the faucets and fixtures in your home. Turn on each faucet to check for proper water flow and drainage. Look for any unusual noises, such as rattling or squeaking, which could indicate issues within the pipes. Ensure that the water shut-off valves under sinks and toilets are functioning properly by turning them on and off.

**Evaluate Water Heater Performance:**

A malfunctioning water heater can lead to a host of problems. Check for any signs of corrosion or water around the base. Test the temperature and pressure relief valve by lifting and lowering the lever to ensure proper functioning. Also, listen for any unusual sounds, as they may indicate sediment buildup in the tank.



## CHAPTER 3



# How to maintain your water heater



## Annual Flushes will save you \$\$\$

Flushing your water heater is a simple do-it-yourself (DIY) maintenance task that helps remove sediment buildup, improve efficiency, and extend the lifespan of your water heater. Here's a step-by-step guide on how to perform a DIY water heater flush:

### Materials Needed:

1. Garden hose
2. Screwdriver
3. Bucket
4. Pipe wrench or adjustable pliers
5. Towels or rags
6. Safety goggles
7. Garden gloves



Cont...

## Procedure:

### 1. Turn Off the Power:

For electric water heaters, turn off the power at the circuit breaker.  
For gas water heaters, set the control knob to the "pilot" position.

### 2. Turn Off the Cold Water Supply:

Locate the cold water inlet valve at the top of the water heater.  
Turn the valve clockwise to shut off the water supply to the heater.  
Connect the Garden Hose:

3. Connect one end of the garden hose to the drain valve located at the bottom of the water heater.  
Place the other end of the hose in a floor drain or run it outside where the water can safely drain without causing damage.

### 4. Open a Hot Water Faucet:

Open a hot water faucet in your house to allow air into the system, which helps the water heater drain more efficiently.

### 5. Open the Drain Valve:

Use a screwdriver or a hose bib key to open the drain valve at the bottom of the water heater.  
Be cautious, as the water draining out may be hot. Use gloves and eye protection.

### 6. Drain the Tank:

Let the water drain completely. You can monitor the progress by checking the water flowing through the hose.

### 7. Flush the Tank:

Once the tank is drained, turn on the cold water supply for a few minutes while the drain valve is still open. This helps flush out any remaining sediment.

### 8. Close the Drain Valve:

Close the drain valve tightly once the water runs clear. Use a pipe wrench or adjustable pliers if needed.

### 9. Disconnect the Hose:

Disconnect the hose from the drain valve.

### 10. Turn On the Water Supply:

Turn on the cold water supply to the water heater.

### 11. Turn On the Power:

For electric heaters, turn the power back on at the circuit breaker.  
For gas heaters, set the control knob back to the desired temperature.

### 12. Check for Leaks:

Inspect the connections for any leaks. Tighten if necessary.

## CHAPTER 4



# Inspect your toilets and what toilet paper you are using



## Examine Toilets for Issues

Toilets are a common source of plumbing problems. Check for any leaks around the base of the toilet and inspect the flushing mechanism. If there's a slow leak, it may not be immediately noticeable, so add a few drops of food coloring into the tank and wait for about 15 minutes. If the color appears in the bowl, there's a leak that needs attention.



## What Toilet Paper are you using?

DO NOT USE "FLUSHABLE" wipes! They were invented by a plumber who wanted to make money (just kidding. We don't know that for sure). Flushable wipes are not good for ANY drainage systems and they are the cause of MANY clogged drains. With our Plumbing experts we did an experiment and determined that Kirklands Toilet Paper was the BEST toilet paper that dissolved the best and was comfortable to use.



## Test Drains and Clear Blockages

Run water in sinks, tubs, and showers to check for any slow drainage issues. If water is slow to drain, it might be a sign of a developing blockage. Use a plunger to clear minor clogs, and if the problem persists, consider using a drain snake or Bio One cleaning solution. This Bio One cleaning solution will help break down the buildup of grease, minerals, and sediment in the drain lines. It can be used in kitchens, toilets, tub & shower drains, and main sewer lines.



## CONCLUSION



**You deserve to live in a home that is maintained, calm, and inspiring.**

By investing time and effort in home maintenance, you create a living space that supports your well-being and provides a calming sanctuary from the stresses of daily life. Regular upkeep allows you to enjoy your home without the worry of unexpected issues, fostering a sense of peace and tranquility.

**You are in control of your space & your budget.**

Taking control of your plumbing maintenance and budget involves a combination of proactive measures, regular inspections, and smart financial planning. By staying proactive and taking a hands-on approach to plumbing maintenance, you can both prevent potential issues and effectively manage your budget for any necessary repair

**You are adding value to your home.**

Proper plumbing maintenance can contribute to the overall value of your home in several ways. A well-maintained plumbing system not only enhances the functionality of your home but also helps prevent potential issues that can negatively impact its value. Investing time and resources in plumbing maintenance not only ensures the ongoing functionality of your home but can also contribute to its long-term value. It's a proactive approach that pays off both in the short term and when you decide to sell your home.



**Thank you for supporting our locally & Veteran Owned Company**

When you choose Spot On you are helping Broken Arrow! We have a full staff that work right here in Broken Arrow. We provide health benefits, retirements plans, financial resources, & Leadership Development to all of our team members. We are more than just a plumbing company, we have a mission and your support, and referrals help make that mission known to our community. Thank you!