

Insurance Considerations

Buying a home is one of the largest investments you will make in your lifetime. It is important to protect that investment with homeowners, disability and life insurance policies. Look for an insurance agency with a long-standing, solid reputation. Ask for referrals from friends and coworkers. The insurance company should also have a reputation for fast, fair claims service and have a solid financial rating of “A” or better from AM Best, an independent company that ranks insurance companies’ financial performance.

Some things that are usually covered by insurance include damages from:

- Fire or smoke, explosion
- Lightning, windstorm or hail
- Vehicles or aircraft
- Vandalism or theft
- Falling objects
- Weight of ice/snow
- Bulging, cracking, rupture of hot-water heating systems
- Freezing of a plumbing system or household appliance
- Water damage
- Loss of use
- Personal Liability

Many factors determine the cost of insurance. Some include:

- Size of home
- Age of home
- Home renovation
- Wood stoves
- Alarm system
- Locks/deadbolts
- Smoke detectors
- Heating system
- Other buildings on the property
- In-home business
- Limit of personal liability
- Loss history
- Credit score
- Other coverage with same company
- Deductible
- Type of roof

Some options you may want to add:

- Flood insurance
- Water backup
- Increased coverage for jewelry, guns, silver, money
- Identity theft coverage

Information provided by Dawson Insurance.