



Meet your inspector:
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Hello Jim,
April 2019 Newsletter
This is part 4 of the series, 13 Ways
Buyers Can Step Up Their Game
When Buying A House

4. Mind Your Budget, Not Everyone Else's

What your friends, family and colleagues can “afford” is not your barometer. Your comfort level should reflect items including loans and debt. Whatever your number, remember: **Owning a home is more than just your monthly payment. Consider utilities, tax and deferred maintenance items. Buy a home you can truly afford. The bottom line:**

**Know your expenses. - [Brian Lawton](#), [Property Revival Realty](#)
(see past newsletters @ www.betterhomeinspectionsvermont.com under “about”)**

Tip of the month

Test your sump pump to avoid flooding

Sump pumps are often found in basements, and are the last line of defense against floods, condensation build-up and water from drains. Unless you're happy to end up with a flooded basement or damaged foundation, you need to test the pump at least every 6 months.

Here's how:

1. Remove debris from the outside pipe

2. Restart the pump so to test if it's running (unplug and plug it back in)
3. Pour water into the sump crock and ensure the pump starts running and pumps the water away

For extra protection, consider getting an automatic leak detector.

FROM THE LIGHTER SIDE

Pull Over!

"Hey, you! Pull over!" shouted the traffic cop. The lady complied, and she was fined seventy-five dollars for not wearing a seat belt.

She went home in great anxiety lest her husband, who always examined her checkbook, should learn of the incident. Then inspiration struck and she marked the check stub, "One pullover: \$75."

THANK YOU, for spending some of your time with me!

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Best regards,

Jim Breer

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