

**SNOWY DAYS GOOD FOR CHORES, BUT FIRST I WILL TAKE A
NAP
04/03/01**

Along about now most of us Adirondackers are getting weary of winter and wondering when it will ever end. Sure, there are exceptions among our younger citizens who are more able to deal with the adversities of the snow and cold. I am confident, however, my first statement speaks for all those close to or beyond my age.

I have learned to cope with it in my own way without opting for a warmer clime. I ride it out in several ways. A recent TV ad in which a young couple duck into a theater lobby from a downpour on the street gave me the idea. The punch line is, "Don't waste a rainy day."

I feel the same way about winter days regardless of how cold or stormy they may be. It's the kind of day as I write this. You can do the same. Take advantage of the weather to do some of the many things that need doing inside away from the weather.

I find there are so many I sometimes get tired just thinking of them and I take a nap. I became overwhelmed organizing them in my mind for this missive. I feel guilty for not doing them instead of writing this.

One can start by making two lists, one headed "good weather" and the other "bad weather". List all of the things needing attention that can be done indoors during bad weather under the proper heading and follow with those chores best done outside on appropriate days. When you are through, kick back in your easy chair, close your eyes and try to remember if there is anything you left off of either list.

After you are satisfied both lists are complete, number and list each task in order of importance. Finally, since you obviously have been working on your lists on a bad day, begin the job on the top of your bad list, unless of course your efforts thus far have left you exhausted at which point it is only good sense to take a short nap. This is a rule, incidentally, that should be observed on both good and bad days.

My own preparations are still in the rudimentary stage and I still have a long way to go before I will finally be convinced I have them in the right order. Everyone, of course, will have different things they need to do and none of us will have the same priorities.

One thing I will wager that everyone needs to do is to organize their photos. After these many years we have several and they are in boxes stored in a haphazard manner. I can never lay my hands on any one in particular. Four albums bought for the purpose have been languishing away somewhere in our cellar for the past 10 years.

My tools are scattered everywhere and I have at times had to buy a new one because I did not know where to look for it. Some need to be oiled, sharpened or cleaned of rust. We all could use a list and put it where we can find it with the names of friends and family who have borrowed tools and sundry other items.

The car, truck, garage, attic, carport, cellar and workshop always need cleaning and organizing. Snow on the roofs, driveways, walks and porches all clamor for attention along with the firewood.

Updating and organizing household files, records, insurance policies and income tax records can easily blow a whole day for most people.

I have just barely begun to outline all of the things that need to be done and a scary thought just entered my mind; There is no possible way at this late date that there will be enough bad days left in this winter to get even half of them done!

I am going to stop and think about this. Guess I will head up to Walt's Diner and confer with the usual pundits there to be sure I make the right decision. If past experience is any indication of my success in that quarter, I will be in worse straits. If that's the one case I will fall back on one of what I believe is an original quotation of mine: "Any day you're not in the hospital is a good day."