

Spooky Attics

By: Inspector Weeks 613.290.3697

Numerous people have asked me “what are some of the scariest things I have seen while doing Home Inspections?”. I have been saving this one for now as it seemed appropriate for the season and Halloween.

Generally speaking most homes are in fair condition, and I am in alot of different houses. All homes have issues, some just more than others. Without being too blunt, I am often shocked at how people live. There are some nasty things out there. Crawlspace that are damp and mouldy. Basements with little or no insulation or what is there is infested with mice, rats or other creepy crawlies. Structural wood components, damp and that have deteriorated with ants and other bugs living in them just waiting for the right moment to cave in. Attics with spiders and nests of bees, bats, birds, squirrels and other four legged vermin. Are you starting to get the picture ?? Can you start to envision a Halloween movie ??

Earlier this year I inspected a house that for a few brief moments spooked me. It was a classic older home built in the 1940's. Before starting my inspection, I was told the current owner's mother had died in the house after years of seclusion. She had been quite a recluse and rarely went out of the house. Rumour had it that she was also a hoarder which explained all the accumulated clutter in the house. What I didn't know was that once a year she opened her front door to all the neighborhood kidsOctober 31Halloween Night. She loved Halloween.

When I started my inspection; knowing she died in the home, I was quite leery to enter the dark, damp crawlspace under the rear of the house not knowing what I would find. I did and apart from the usual cobwebs, all seemed well. I then sheepishly continued inspecting throughout the house and finally got to the attic. By this time my flashlight was nearly out of batteries giving very little light as I slowly and cautiously attempted to open the attic hatch. It was painted shut. With a few good taps with my fist it gave way. It squeaked as I opened it and I pushed it off to the side. Nervously I climbed to the top of the ladder and stuck my head through the narrow hatch. By the design of the buildings attic, in order to do a thorough inspection I had to go right up and navigate my way to the far end of the building. The attic continued off to the side. I cautiously turned the corner, banged my dim flashlight to keep it working and this is what I saw !!!! My heart nearly jumped right out of my chest.

Happy HalloweenThis story is partially true, with a bit of embellishment for the season



I welcome your questions please forward them to , Inspector Weeks ,c/o Peter Weeks Home Inspections PWHI@sympatico.ca now changed to pwhi.rhi@gmail.com or by phone at 613.290.3697.

Peter Weeks has been a Chelsea resident for 19 years. As a general contractor since 1988, he has been doing Residential Home Inspections for about four years. He is an Associate Member of OAH (Ontario Association of Home Inspectors), CAHPI (Canadian Association of Home & Property Inspectors) and a member of the BBB in Good Standing.

A home inspection can be one of the most important investments you'll ever make. Choose Peter Weeks to provide you and your family PEACE OF MIND during the buying process.