



PRE-VACATION HOUSE PREP CHECKLIST

- Put a few lights on a timer, or leave two lamps and a porch light on, minimizing the chance of a break in.
- Ensure all windows and doors are locked. Lock pet doors if they won't be home.
- Close all blinds.
- Bring hidden keys inside.
- Put out ample food and water for animals who will be on their own.
- Turn off water if you don't need it for an automatic sprinkler system.
- Turn off gas.
- Turn thermostat to 85 during warmer months, and 55 in colder months.
- Make sure all burners and oven is off.
- Run garbage disposal, and run and empty dishwasher.
- Take out trash and recycling. Put out bins if there will be a pick up while you're gone, and ask a neighbor to bring them back in when empty.
- Unplug appliances that won't need power while you're away.
- Clean out the fridge and dispose of any pantry food that will get moldy in your absence. And make sure the fridge and freezer doors are sealed.
- Pour a cup of bleach in toilet bowls to prevent scum build up.
- Leave out cinnamon sticks, or other products, to ensure your home smells fresh when you return.
- Water plants.
- Make sure smoke detectors aren't low on batteries.
- Wash sheets and soiled clothes.
- Ensure the washer and dryer are free of clothes.
- Put a hold on mail and newspapers if you'll be gone for more than a few days.
- Put a hold on services, such as cleaning and lawn, that you don't want while you're gone.
- Pay all bills that will come due while you're away.
- Lock valuables in fire proof safe.
- Don't tell social media when you'll be out of town.
- If you have an alarm system, let the company know you'll be out of town.
- If you have a pool, make sure the pump is running.