

Vacation Check List

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Securing your home before you are away is a crucial step to a stress-free vacation. Use this list as your check off list for the whole family, plus add anything else that is unique to securing your residence.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE....

NOTIFY:

- ALARM COMPANY
- NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS OR RELATIVES WHEN YOU *ACTUALLY* LEAVE THE RESIDENCE
- POSTAL SERVICE TO STOP MAIL
- NEWSPAPER TO STOP DELIVERY
- DELIVERY COMPANIES IF YOU THINK YOU MAY RECEIVE PACKAGES
- CALL YOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT VOLUNTEER NUMBER FOR VACATION CHECKS

TO HAVE THAT "WE ARE HOME LOOK" ASK A NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND TO:

- PARK IN YOUR DRIVEWAY OR IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE
- CHECK YOUR MAIL JUST IN CASE (for sure the first two days)
- PICK UP DOOR HANGERS, FREE PAPERS, RANDOM NOTES
- COME IN AND OPEN BLINDS DURING THE DAY AND CLOSE AT NIGHT
- WATER THE PLANTS IN THE FRONT FOR SURE
- IF GONE FOR MORE THAN A WEEK, ASK SOMEONE TO MOW YOUR LAWN AGAIN

INSIDE YOUR RESIDENCE

- CLOSE ALL WINDOWS (EVEN THE SMALLEST ONES)
- SECURE THE DOGGY DOOR (EVEN IF IT SEEMS TOO SMALL TO FIT THROUGH)
- SECURE SLIDING GLASS DOORS WITH A FLOOR LOCK *NOT* A DOWEL
- HIDE ELECTRONICS AND JEWELRY
- LOCK DOOR BETWEEN GARAGE AND HOUSE
- HIDE EXTRA HOUSE AND VEHICLE KEYS
- LOCK SAFES AND FIREARMS
- SET TIMERS FOR RANDOM USE OF LIGHTS AND TV
- TAKE PHOTO OF YOUR STOVE TO ALLEVIATE YOUR WORRIES IF IT IS TURNED OFF
- LAST STEP IS TO SET ALARM SYSTEM

(more on back)

OUTSIDE OF YOUR RESIDENCE

- ❑ MOW THE LAWN
- ❑ LOCK ALL VEHICLES INCLUDING ONES IN THE GARAGE/BOATS/MOTORCYCLES, ETC
- ❑ PUT LADDER(S) IN GARAGE OR SHED
- ❑ LOCK GATES TO BACKYARD
- ❑ LOCK SHEDS AND GARAGE (sheds need locks too)
- ❑ PUT ALL BICYCLES IN GARAGE OR SHED
- ❑ DOUBLE CHECK THE MOTION SENSOR LIGHTS

JUST A THOUGHT...

- EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE A DOG, GET A BEWARE OF DOG SIGN FOR YOUR FENCE
- TRIM ANY AND ALL SHRUBS ALONG THE SIDE OF YOUR HOUSE SO THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN SEE DOWN THE SIDES AT NIGHT WITH THEIR FLASHLIGHTS
- IF YOU TRAVEL A LOT, CONSIDER PURCHASING A DOOR BELL DEVICE THAT ALERTS YOU TO PEOPLE COMING TO YOUR DOOR. (LIKE THE RING OR ADVANCED SECURITY'S UNIT OR OTHER)
- BE SURE YOUR DEAD BOLT LOCKS ARE ACTUALLY BOLTED IN TO THE STUD ON YOUR DOORS AND NOT JUST IN TO THE FRAME.
- MOTION SENSOR LIGHTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT
- DO NOT POST PRE-TRIP INFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA ABOUT YOUR TRIP
- DO NOT POST PHOTOS OR DIALOG OF THE TRIP WHILE YOU ARE GONE

IF YOU HAVE TIME BEFORE YOUR TRIP...

- YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER JOINING OR STARTING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM ON YOUR BLOCK TO ENHANCE EVERYONE'S SECURITY.

