



# Snowbird Checklist

## Securing your vacant home

If you head north in summer and south in winter, your properties will be vacant part of the year. Taking the right steps to protect them while vacant is essential. This checklist will help you prepare your home before you leave, giving you peace of mind year-round.

## Before you leave

### Insurance

- ☐ Talk to your insurance agent about your insurance policy to ensure you have proper protection
- ☐ Ask about vacancy clauses or coverage changes for unoccupied homes

### Home

- ☐ Lock all exterior doors
- ☐ Lock all windows
- ☐ Add extra security (deadbolts, window bars) if possible
- ☐ Install or activate alarm system
- ☐ Turn on motion detectors
- ☐ Set up security cameras for remote monitoring
- ☐ Arrange for a trusted person (neighbor, friend, property manager) to check your home regularly
- ☐ Provide contact info and instructions to your property checker
- ☐ Turn off the main water supply
- ☐ Unplug non-essential appliances
- ☐ Keep internet service active for remote monitoring
- ☐ Trim trees and shrubs around the house
- ☐ Clean gutters and downspouts
- ☐ Winterize plumbing if in a cold climate

- ☐ Secure outdoor furniture and shutters if in a coastal area
- ☐ Take valuables with you or store them somewhere secure like a bank safe deposit box
- ☐ Forward mail to your current address
- ☐ Double check any deliveries will be going to the correct address
- ☐ Set timers on indoor and outdoor lights to simulate occupancy

### While Away

- ☐ Receive regular updates and photos from your property checker
- ☐ Monitor security system remotely via apps or services
- ☐ Inform your insurance agent of any changes in vacancy status or property condition

## Returning Home

- ☐ Inspect the entire property for damage, leaks, or signs of intrusion
- ☐ Turn water and utilities back on carefully, and check for issues
- ☐ Notify your insurance agent that you have returned and confirm coverage status
- ☐ Forward mail to your current address
- ☐ Double check any deliveries will be going to the correct address

This document is for illustrative purposes only and is not a contract. It is intended to provide a general overview of the program described. Please remember only the insurance policy can give actual terms, coverage, amounts, conditions and exclusions. Program availability and coverage are subject to individual underwriting criteria.

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