



# PROTECTING YOUR HOME WHILE ON VACATION CHECKLIST



## Prevent break-ins, theft, and vandalism

- Install motion detectors, door and window sensors, along with surveillance cameras
- Make sure valuables are not visible through windows
- Ask neighbors to keep an eye on your property and pick up your mail and packages

## Avoid water damage

- Inspect your faucets, fixtures, and toilets for leaks or weaknesses
- Clear your gutter and downspouts of debris
- Install smart water leak detection sensors in leak-prone areas of the home

## Maintain energy efficiency

- Unplug nonessential electronics and appliances
- Use LED light bulbs while away to light your home and conserve energy

## Get ahead of electrical and fire hazards

- Look for frayed wires, exposed cables, and signs of overheating and fix them
- Ensure that your home has functioning smoke detectors in key areas, such as bedrooms and hallways
- Store flammable materials and liquids away from ignitors

## Prepare for severe weather

- Install shutters or impact-resistant windows to protect against high winds and flying debris
- Trim overhanging branches and remove dead or weak trees near your home
- Repair or replace loose or damaged roof shingles
- Install a temporary roof cover to protect your roof from leaks or damage

## Keep out pests

- Use caulk to seal the openings, weather stripping to seal the gaps in windows and doorways, and mesh screens for windows and vents
- Remove all perishable food items from your pantry
- Turn to professional services if you have a history of pest problems or infestations

## WHAT TO SECURE IN YOUR HOME BEFORE YOU GO



- Roof
- Downspout and gutter
- Windows
- Front door and front windows
- Driveway and garage
- Mailbox
- Inside the house
- Surrounding trees