

Vacation Check List

If you are leaving for an extended period, here are a few things to remember:

1. Turn off the water at the water meter and open all faucets including the exterior spigot to release the vacuum and let the water drain out. If you are unsure of where your shut-off valve is located, please contact the Tamarack Maintenance Department at (608) 833-5445.
2. Set the hot water heater on "pilot".
3. Close all drains and put toilet lids down to prevent the evaporation of water from the traps. As added protection against frozen drain lines, put a little antifreeze in each of the drains and toilet bowl.
4. Stop your mail delivery. Make arrangements to have your mail held at the Post Office or have it picked up occasionally by a neighbor. Stop newspaper delivery and any other scheduled deliveries.
5. Set heat back to desired temperature (approximately 50F – 55F).*
6. Close all window coverings, lock and secure all doors and windows.
7. Use light timers (two or more) on lights normally utilized during evening hours. Variable timers are preferred. Have neighbors check to make sure lights and timers are functioning properly.
8. Alert neighbors to watch for any deliveries, either scheduled or unscheduled, e.g., packages, papers, items hung on doorknob, etc.
9. Leave a phone number and address with the Office and/or a neighbor, so you can be reached in case of an emergency.
10. Leave a house key with a friend, neighbor, and/or the Office.
11. Lock the door leading from the garage into the house. Also lock any cars stored in the garage.
12. Unplug or turn off your electric garage door opener.
13. If you desire, a staff person will check your home's interior for a \$7.00 per visit fee. Contact Jean Hilgers to make arrangements.
14. Enjoy your carefree vacation!

* Honeywell makes a thermostatically controlled temperature alert called the Winter Watchman that can be bought for about \$15.00. A resident can place a 75W yellow light bulb in a lamp near the front window and plug the lamp into the Winter Watchman. The device will flash the light, if the temperature in the unit dips below a preset temperature, e.g., 40F. A neighbor or staff member who sees the light can notify the Office, so action can be taken to prevent the water pipes from freezing and bursting.