

Snowbirds ~ Prepping Your House for Summer

Things to do before leaving the Park for the summer:

1. Have your air conditioner serviced, replace the air filter and set your thermostat to 80 degrees - 85 degrees while you are gone.
2. Set your humidity controller to 50-60%, if you have one.
3. Check your plumbing for leaks before you leave.
4. Inspect your roof for damage and ensure that there are no leaks before you leave.
5. Arrange for outdoor pest control for while you are away.
6. Arrange for continued yard mowing and trimming for while you are away.
7. Clean out food items from the refrigerator and the pantry.
8. Turn off your refrigerator, wipe down the outside, prop the doors open. (If the power goes off with the refrigerator on and the doors closed, you can get mold growing in the refrigerator.)
9. Make sure the washing machine is completely drained to prevent the growth of mold.
10. Leave the lid of the washing machine lid open to prevent mold.
11. Cover toilet bowls, toilet tanks and sinks with plastic wrap to prevent water evaporation.
12. Wipe down all the kitchen appliances.
13. Unplug the TV, DVD, power strips, lights and all small appliances.
14. Check to make sure all windows and doors are locked properly.
15. Put out RAID (or other brand) bug traps - under sinks, in closets and all rooms around the house.
16. Leave closet doors open for air circulation, which will help stop the build up of mold.

17. Put out DAMP RID around the house (bathrooms, bedrooms, closets, under sinks, in the kitchen) to help with humidity.
18. Unplug all small appliances like lamps, clocks etc,
19. Empty the dishwasher and prop the door open to prevent mold.
20. Make sure all smoke alarms and CO2 detectors are working.
21. Ask a friend or neighbor who lives here year round to keep an eye on your home.
22. Close your drapes and blinds.
23. Stop mail deliveries. (Forward your mail for the summer.)
24. Cover or plug all drains
25. Close outdoor canopies and blinds.
26. Put away all outdoor decorations, outdoor furniture and other things that will fly in hurricane winds.
27. Take down flags, etc.
28. Turn water off to the house.
29. Notify close friends and neighbors when you will be leaving and when you will return.
30. Bring a list of important phone numbers for Florida.
31. Turn off the breaker for the hot water heater.
32. Turn off water valves for the sinks, toilets, washing machine and dishwasher.
33. Monitor you electric bill for any unusual changes.