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wiserTRAVEL

from the website of Steve Wiser, WiserDesigns.com

Travel Preparation Checklist

To avoid that uneasy feeling of 'did I forget something' or 'did I remember to . . .', the following list is designed to be prepared upon departure so that the only thing you will have to worry about on your trip is the weather!

Immediately Prior to Departure

- Empty all wastebaskets and take trash bags to outside containers
- Take all recycling items to outside containers
- Adjust thermostat to reduce heating or cooling system
- Set auto-timer for night time lighting
- Turn off icemaker in refrigerator
- Clean refrigerator of any foods (milk, etc.) that might spoil prior to return and empty to outside containers
- Recheck that range / stove is off
- Unplug coffee maker
- Flying: double check for airline information
- Driving: write down odometer count to track mileage
- Recheck for traveler's checks
- Driving: Pillow, blanket, etc.
- Turn off phone ringer
- Place note on telephone to turn on the ringer upon return
- Turn off electric hot water heater / Set gas hot water heater to 'pilot' or 'low' (Leave reminder note to reset upon return)
- Turn off heater and reduce filter time on pool
- All deadbolt door locks secured (garage; basement; porch; etc.)
- Close and secure all windows
- Double check that all faucets are off
- Start or unload dishwasher
- Sunglasses
- Cell phone(s)
- Laptop(s)
- Digital camera(s)
- Recheck for travel information
- Flush all toilets!
- If you have kids: take a wet wash clothe in a plastic bag
- Cooler with sodas; sandwiches; snacks; etc
- Toiletries (toothbrush – toothpaste)
- Rechargers: laptop; phone; battery (for digital camera); razor; etc.

Refer to Next Page for more wiserTRAVEL Prep Checklist Tips

Selected Travel Prep Tips

- Passport (if needed)
- Take AAA membership card
- Take only credit card(s) which will be used
- Contact newspaper to put delivery on hold
- Purchase traveler's checks
- Cut grass / Arrange for lawn care
- Go to Post Office and put hold on the mail delivery
- Arrange care for pets / plants
- Photocopy vital items being taken, i.e. credit cards, driver's license, airline tickets, etc.
- Extra eyeglasses / contact lens
- Binoculars
- Medications and extra copies of prescription slips
- Physicians contact info
- Review with insurance agent coverage limits (car rental; theft; loss luggage; etc.)
- Small first aid kit (aspirin; antacids; pepto bismo tablets; bandaids; etc.)
- Jacket / sweater
- Cap / hat
- Umbrella (collapsible)
- Sun tan lotion
- Address book / pre-printed computer address labels
- Stamps for post cards and letters
- Swimsuit
- Notify neighbors on who to call in case of house emergency (pick up any packages / flyers left at door; etc.)
- Writing material (pens; tablet; etc.)
- Reading material (books; magazines; etc.)
- Notify close relative of will location; lawyer's name; safety deposit box location; etc.
- Provide close relative a copy of the itinerary
- Pocket calculator

If driving:

- Oil change / mechanic inspection
- Check tires (treads / air pressure)
- Check spare tire and changing tools

Additional considerations

- Check answering machine instructions on how to access messages over the phone
- Conceal (or store with relatives) any valuables (computer; jewelry; etc.)
- Consider turning off main water valve (if you do, be sure to turn off or down the water heater temperature)