## **Closing our Florida House**

<b>Early Preparation</b>	<b>3</b>	
Newspaper	cancel newspapers	
Mail	arrange for Post Office to forward mail	
Utilities	drop long distance plan put Comcast on vacation pause	
House sitting	confirm check in visits with homewatch firm arrange hurricane shutter installation	provide neighbors with contact details change thermostat batteries
Plants	give to friends	spread fertilizer, pesticides outside
Outdoors	prune shrubs	clean and move BBQ to garage
Garage	empty attic and move items inside check garage for items to move inside drain propane tanks	clean garbage pails / blue boxes change vacuum cleaner bag
Misc	notify Brinks / Broadview Security buy 3 spare air filters for air conditioner backup computer deposit adequate funds in bank	replace air filter check air conditioner drain / pan clean dryer air filter
Final Preparation (a	fternoon before leaving)	
Windows	close all shutters, blinds, curtains	lock all windows
Refrigerator	throw out perishables put water jugs in the freezer	turn off ice maker, empty ice
Cupboards	throw out perishables put bottles, cans on cardboard trays put spices in plastic bags, refrigerate	clean all shelves tighten all bottle caps seal flour, etc.
Outdoors	move lanai furniture indoors	move Brinks sign into garage
Appliances	clean oven, dishwasher, washer clean toaster oven, other appliances	empty dryer lint trap
Miscellaneous	consider light timers photograph clothes to be left in Florida	remove and plug computer ink video record house interior for insurance
Last Steps (as leavi	ng)	
Doors	lock and bar both sliding doors	open interior doors and cupboards
Furniture	cover upholstry with sheets	clean furniture
Clothes Cupboard	d place dehumidifier buckets in cupboards	space out clothes
Power	turn lights out, check timers unplug clocks, lamps, toaster oven turn off unneeded circuit breakers	remove batteries from remotes, flashlights unplug computer and TV power bars disconnect phones from wall
Water	turn off hot water heater element turn off water to washing machine turn off water at the meter (homewatch wil	run hot water in both bathroom turn off both outside faucets
Furnace	set temperature at 80 degrees	set humidistat to 60 percent
Miscellaneous	empty all garbage cans in house wash / dry shower walls leave dishwasher door open (use towel) walk around yard looking for missed items set out recycling and garbage	put cooking oil in garburator dispose of garbage lock door from garage to house disconnect garage door opener arm Brinks / Broadview Security alarm