

CLOSING HOUSE FOR SUMMER

OUTSIDE

- Secure or put away all outside items that could become "missiles" during hurricane season
- Put outside hoses away so that they don't crack.
- Put your bikes in the house setting them upside down to protect the floor and tires on the bike.
- Wax air conditioner. This helps keep the water from sitting on top and rusting your conditioner.
- Put all furniture from both outside rooms (lanai and screen room) in the house. Helps prevent mold forming on cushions.
- Put down all shutters. If you have clam shutters, we hear that adding a sheet of "Bounce" Dryer Sheets under each shutter will repel insects.
- Seal out moisture by covering bath & kitchen vents with plastic wrap. Seal dryer vent on outside.

VENTILATION AND EVAPORATION

- Add bleach to toilet bowl and cover toilet with plastic wrap.
- VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS ABOUT DRAINS, GARBAGE DISPOSAL, DISHWASHER
 - Put stoppers in drains. Put mineral oil in all drains to help keep bugs out and seal drains with Plastic Food Wrap.
 - Clean garbage disposal by running a tray of ice cubes through it and then running a solution of baking soda and water Put 1 cup cider vinegar in disposal & then the stopper. Leave stopper in place to prevent water from the trap beneath from evaporating during the summer.
 - Spray cooking oil into garbage disposal and on all surfaces of dishwasher. Helps protect the rubber and keeps bugs out.
- Leave closet doors open to permit air circulation.
- Open drawers in bedrooms to allow ventilation through items left.
- Leave only clean clothes in closet. Allow space between garments to permit circulation.

REFRIGERATOR: **various alternatives suggested. All comments welcomed!**

- Clean interior of refrigerator with baking soda and water to neutralize food soil & prevent odors. Dry thoroughly.
- Leave the refrigerator/freezer running and use it store flour, sugars, salt pasta, popcorn or water in tightly sealed containers. Stuff empty spaces with newspaper to conserve energy. OR
- Empty refrigerator and freezer and unplug

CLEANING

- Remove food particles from filter in dishwasher. Run dishwasher through short cycle.
- Clean oven, broiler and drip trays under surface unit of range.
- Cans and jars can be left on shelves.
- Discard open cereals, crackers, etc. They attract pests.
- Clean portable appliances, including trap under toaster.
- Vacuum and clean spots and stains using upholstery cleaner.
- Clean & wax wood furniture.
- Make sure all linens and towels have been washed & dried.
- Clean leather items with leather cleaner then spray with disinfectant spray.
- Vacuum whole house, Replace sweeper bag.
- Take throw rugs up from kitchen and bath vinyl floors as the floor underneath may discolor in summer.
- Make sure you have clean sheets on beds.
- Cover dishes in cabinets with plastic wrap to avoid having to wash when you return.

FINALLY.....

- Set humidistat to 65-68 and thermostat on 78-80. Put new batteries in thermostat.
- Secure all window locks.
- Turn off water and water heater.
- Disconnect the computer and all phones from the phone line connection. Unplug appliances and lamps to protect from electrical current surges.
- Remove batteries from VCR, TV controls, telephone and phone. (They can be stored in the fridge).

Disclaimer:

These suggestions have been offered by various OBV residents and should be implemented at your own risk. Old Bridge Village Co-op, Inc. makes no express or implied warranties of any kind nor can it guarantee the effectiveness of any suggestion.