

## **TIME TO WINTERIZE YOUR SUMMER HOME**

As the days get shorter we are reminded that it is time to start thinking about winterizing your summer house. Here are some projects to consider:

### **UTILITIES AND PLUMBING:**

- Shut off the water at the main
- Open all faucets and drain all water lines
- If the house will be vacant for a long time open all toilet lids and seats and cover the bowls with saran wrap
- If you have a pool drain and winterize it
- Any other sources of exterior water, such as a fountain, should be drained
- Check any appliances with water (refrigerator with water dispenser, washing machine, etc) and remove water filter from inside the refrigerator
- Turn down thermostats to above freezing to keep things dry if you leave your heating system on
- Unplug all appliances
- Shut off gas and hot water heaters

### **KITCHEN:**

- Clean out refrigerator and freezer
- Remove all food from pantry
- Guard against insects and rodents
- Remove any items that could freeze

### **OUTDOOR AREAS:**

- Store outdoor furniture
- Protect the yard and gardens
- Have the irrigation system winterized

### **GENERAL:**

- Wash all fabrics – towels, bedding, linens
- Vacuum carpets and floors
- Remove all fire hazards
- Close flues and dampers
- Redirect mail to your winter address
- Have your caretaker make regular checks on the house

Look forward to next spring!