

# LIVING GREEN NEWS

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## Getting Ready for Winter

Believe it or not, it's time to winterize your home(s). Since many have vacation homes and September might be the last time you spend any appreciable time at this home, we will dedicate this issue of the LGN to winterizing your vacation home. The October issue will cover winterizing your primary home.

### Here's How:

1. Clean your vacation home's gutters so that rain water drains away from the house quickly.
2. Pruning tree limbs that hang over your home or nearby utility lines can help lessen damage during winter wind and ice storms.
3. Drain water from all outside hoses. Cover all outside faucets with insulation if you'll be away from your vacation home during cold months.
4. If you have a swimming pool, close it or hire a professional to do it.
5. If you can reach it safely, disconnect your home's small satellite dish and store it indoors.
6. Store lawn furniture, grills, tools, and other items inside. If that isn't possible, cover with plastic and secure them in a protected location.
7. Clean your vacation home's refrigerator thoroughly. Unplug it, and prop the door open. Unplug other appliances.
8. Turn off water at the main line, even if your vacation home is in a warm climate. No one will be home to find plumbing leaks.
9. If your vacation home will be empty during cold months, hire a professional to winterize the plumbing.
10. Turn off your home's propane or natural gas. Get help from a professional if you aren't sure what to do.
11. Make arrangements to continue pest inspections and pest treatments if necessary.
12. Turn off the home's electrical power at the main breaker.
13. Notify the Postal Service to forward your mail. Stop newspaper delivery.

### Tips:

1. Screen-covered gutters are a good investment if your vacation home is in an area near falling leaves or pine needles.

2. If humidity is high, it might be best to leave the furnace or air conditioning on while you are away, to discourage mildew and odors. Talk with others who leave for the season, to see what's worked best for them.
3. Find someone who will drop by your vacation retreat occasionally to make sure it is secure. Be sure they know how to reach you.



## Days to Fly the American Flag

The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on:

January 1	New Year's Day
January 20	Inauguration Day
3rd Monday in February	Presidents' Day & Washington's Birthday
(variable)	Easter Sunday
2nd Sunday in May	Mother's Day
3rd Saturday in May	Armed Forces Day
Last Monday in May	Memorial Day (half staff until noon)
June 14	Flag Day
July 4	Independence Day
1st Monday in September	Labor Day
September 11	Let us never forget what happen on 9/11
September 17	Constitution Day
2nd Monday in October	Columbus Day
October 27	Navy Day
November 11	Veterans Day
4th Thursday in November	Thanksgiving Day
December 25	Christmas Day
(variable)	Election Days
	State Holidays

## Trivia:

1. What color is the Hope Diamond – Pink, Blue, or White?
2. Which word can refer to the frame or body of a ship and also means to remove the core from strawberries?
3. Which ocean lies to the north of Russia?

Answers are at the bottom of the page

## Quoteable Quote

**“Believe it can be done. When you believe something can be done, really believe, your mind will find the ways to do it. Believing a solution paves the way to solution”**

**David J. Schwartz**