



## PACKING TIPS

- Start by gathering as many boxes that you think you will need, tape, markers and packing material (i.e. foam shipping noodles, bubble wrap, packing paper or towels).
- If possible, try to use uniform size boxes for easy stacking.
- Make up an inventory of your items and keep it in a safe place at home or in a safe deposit box.
- Be sure your boxes are strong enough to hold 25-30 pounds. (It is best not to put too much in each box.)
- Fill boxes to capacity. Partially full or bulging boxes may collapse or tip over while stored.
- List contents of boxes on all four sides. This will make accessing items much easier. Number the boxes and seal with tape.
- **Appliances and electronics:** Clean appliances thoroughly. Refrigerators and freezers must be defrosted and dry and washing machines completely drained. Remove doors of appliances and store separately; desiccants (drying agents) should be used and containers checked and emptied regularly. Take apart lawn mowers and snow blowers'; making sure all the fuel is completely drained. Larger appliances make excellent "packaging cases" for blankets, towels, tablecloths and clothes.
- **Bicycles:** Wipe a few drops of oil on bicycles and tools to prevent rusting, and then store these items away from furniture to avoid oil staining.
- **Books and documents:** Pack books flat to protect spines; use small boxes to avoid cartons that are too heavy to move easily. Put heavy items on bottom.
- **Clothes:** Hang clothes loosely in wardrobe boxes. For extra protection, take a square foot of light cheesecloth and fill with cedar chips, tying all four corners together so none of the chips get loose in the box. Any items like clothing and fabric should have a couple of moth balls packed in with the items to help prevent pests.
- **Dishes and glassware:** Glass items should be individually wrapped; use blank wrapping paper for best results; "nest" cups and bowls, stand plates and platters; fill air pockets with wrapping paper or foam peanuts; don't put breakables under other boxes. Boxes should have a layer of padding on top and bottom.
- **Furniture:** Stand sofas and mattresses on end; disassemble beds and tables; wrap legs in wrapping paper; keep upholstery off floor; place loose, light plastic dust covers or sheets over furniture. Furniture with drawers can be utilized as storage places for pictures, knick-knacks, china, silverware, small items, etc. Wrap them in tablecloths, towels or blankets to prevent breakage.
- **Lamps:** Pack lamp shades separately; use blank paper to wrap lamp shades and other property that may be damaged by ink stains from regular newsprint.
- **Pictures and mirrors:** should be wrapped in cardboard, marked "FRAGILE", and stacked on end.
- **Yard Tools:** Shovels, hoes, rakes and hoses can be stored together in empty trash cans. Stack extra cans inside each other. Metal objects should be wiped with a rag containing machine oil to prevent rust.