

Homeowner Checklist

- **Review the insured value** of your home. If you have made any additions or improvements, you should increase the insurable value accordingly. Today, basic construction costs begin at \$175 per square foot and can range to well over \$200 per square foot, depending on the quality of construction.
- **Building Ordinance:** Rebuilding to current codes generally adds significant costs to replacing a damaged structure. Most policies only cover the cost to rebuild a building "as is," without considering current building code requirements. Building Ordinance coverage will provide this protection.
- **Identity Theft:** continues to be a concern. All companies have insurable option to meet today's growing need. The coverage reimburses you for most costs resulting from identity theft fraud.
- **Review your liability limit.** Some carriers allow you to increase coverage from \$500,000 to \$1 million, the cost is approximately \$25. If you do not already have one, you may want to consider an **UMBRELLA POLICY** to provide an additional \$1 million limit above and beyond the limits provided under your policies. Umbrella premiums generally range from \$150 to \$200 annually. Higher Umbrella limits are also available to protect your assets.
- **Review your deductible.** Increasing your deductible to \$1,000 or \$2,500 could save 10% to 20% off your premium cost. Higher deductible options may be available for more savings.
- **If you have a business** operating out of your home, please call me immediately to discuss proper coverage.
- **Items** such as **jewelry, furs, boats, and silverware** have limited coverage under a basic homeowners form. If you want to be properly insured for these items, you need to separately schedule each item on your policy. For these items that are already scheduled on your policy, you must obtain new appraisals every 5 years to verify they are insured at the correct value.

- **Flood** is not covered - you should consider purchasing flood insurance with the **National Flood Insurance Program**. Please call our office for further details - we can help.
- **Unoccupied / Vacant Property**: property cannot be vacant, if this happens phone our office immediately as you could be denied coverage if you suffer a loss.
- **Water Backup** from sewers and drains - is not automatically covered. Buy back options are available. Call our office for further details.
- **Oil Spills**: Your policy will exclude coverage for any oil spill. You can buy back coverage with an endorsement. The annual cost range is \$40 - \$100 depending on your homeowner company.
- **Home Rental**: Please contact me if your home or any part of your home is rented / advertised for rental as part of a sharing / rental company or independently as coverage is restricted in this situation.
- **Account Credit**: By insuring your automobile with our agency, you can save up to 20% on your homeowner's premium and also receive a discount on your automobile policy. Contact us for information on obtaining a quote for your personal vehicles.
- **Life Insurance**: We sell it! Leave your family financially secure.
- **Cyber Coverage**: Consider adding this coverage to assist with the costs incurred due to a cyber-attack on your computer
- **Condo Owners** should obtain and review the Condominium Association master insurance policy bylaws annually for changes which might affect your personal insurance coverage.

Renters Checklist

- **Personal Property Limit:** Review the contents of your residence regularly. If your volume of contents has increased or you have made an expensive purchase you should consider increasing the Personal Property coverage limit on your policy.
- **If you have a business** operating out of your residence, you need special property and liability coverage. Please call our office to discuss.

Roommates who are not related to you may require an endorsement be added to your policy or a separate tenant's policy may be needed. Contact me to discuss.