



If you have any family or friends looking to buy or sell a home, please give them my name. If your home is currently listed for sale with another Realtor®, please disregard this offer.

## PLAN A SUCCESSFUL YARD SALE

*The holidays are on the way. Now's a good time to clear out the clutter. Here are some tips for a successful sale.*

**Set a date.** Do this well in advance. Don't choose a holiday weekend, and pray for good weather.

**Collect sale items.** Sort and box similar items. This will save time later when you are setting up. Store everything neatly in the garage.

**Tell your neighbors.** Let your neighbors know about the sale, and encourage them to sell on the same day. The more sellers, the more people you'll attract.

**Tell the world.** It's all about advertising. Put large, colorful signs on a major road. Keep them all the same color with clear directions, the address and the time. Try listing the yard sale online or in free community papers also.



**Attach price tags.** Clearly price everything with masking tape and bright markers. Put like things together. Use tables to make the viewing of merchandise easier. Borrow clothing racks, and have a great layout of goods so people can easily see everything.

**Be prepared.** Have an extension cord handy so people can check electric items. Have shopping bags or boxes handy to help people collect and carry goods away.

**Manage the money.** Have a lot of small change handy—use a fanny pack to keep it safe and in one place.

**Bargain.** The idea of a yard sale is to get rid of everything. Bargain like crazy—offer to add items for an extra 50 cents or offer five books for the price of three. An hour before closing, slash prices!

**Get rid of everything.** Arrange for a charity to pick up whatever is not sold. Don't take anything back into the house!

Source: Oprah.com

## PREPAREDNESS FOR TIME CHANGE SUNDAY

Autumn's here and it's time to Fall Back. On Sunday, November 7, we come to the end of Daylight Saving Time in most of the United States. With an extra hour in the day it's time for a seasonal home preparedness checklist!

As you circle the house, resetting clocks to Standard Time, make time for this short safety checklist. It'll see you into the winter from a safe--and organized--home:

- Change the clocks, change the batteries.** Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors save lives ... if they're powered on by a fresh battery. Safety experts recommend replacing smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries twice a year--so celebrate Time Change Sunday with fresh batteries all around.
- Replace light bulbs.** Long dark winter evenings call for a little illumination! Since you'll have stepladders out to reach smoke detectors and clocks on Time Change Sunday, double up on safety (and energy savings) by checking for light bulbs and fixtures. Consider replacing conventional bulbs with energy-efficient compact fluorescent or LCD bulbs. Replacing standard bulbs with energy-efficient ones saves over \$30 in electricity costs over their lifetime.
- Make or review your family emergency plan.** If an emergency strikes, will your family know what to do? Review your family's emergency plan, or create one for the first time. Update phone numbers, addresses and contact information, and post an Emergency Information Page near the phone.

Source: OrganizedHome.com



## CRANBERRY-PEAR CRISP



4 to 6 firm pears (6 cups), cut into 3/4-in. pieces  
 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
 1 1/2 cups cranberries  
 1/3 cup sugar  
 1/2 cup flour  
 1/2 cup chilled (1 stick) butter  
 1/4 cup granulated sugar  
 1/4 cup light-brown sugar  
 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon  
 1 cup rolled oats  
 Pinch of salt

**DIRECTIONS:** Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Peel and cut 4 to 6 firm pears into 3/4-inch pieces to yield 6 cups. In a large bowl, toss pears with 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice. Add 1 1/2 cups cranberries and 1/3 cup sugar; toss well.

Transfer to six 8-ounce ramekins (or a 3-quart baking dish). Sprinkle with topping; bake until fruit is tender and topping is golden, about 25 minutes. Let cool at least 30 minutes before serving with vanilla ice cream, if desired.

To make Oatmeal Crisp Topping: In a food processor, pulse 1/2 cup flour with 1/2 cup (1 stick) chilled butter until pea-size clumps form. Add 1/4 cup each granulated and light-brown sugar, 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon, 1 cup rolled oats, and a pinch of salt; pulse until large, moist clumps form, about 10 times.

## WARRANTY WISDOM

A home service agreement can make your repair process easy. We make the call to arrange for a licensed and insured contractor to take care of your problem. With a home service agreement, you pay a small deductible for your covered repairs, without it you could pay hundreds. A **2-10 Home Buyers Resale Warranty Corporation** home service agreement gives you the protection you need against breakdowns of covered appliances and major systems such as plumbing, heating, electrical and air conditioning.

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