

# COTTAGE CLOSING TIPS

## If you're ... turning the power off



### 1. Empty the fridge

- Unplug and empty the fridge and freezer
- Clean surfaces with bleach or disinfectant
- Leave a box of baking soda to prevent odours
- Prop open the fridge and freezer doors to allow airflow
- Lay down a towel to absorb any freezer ice as it melts



### 2. Turn off the water

- Switch off the water pump and hot water heater
- Drain the water tank and all water pipes, including plumbing, washer and dishwasher
- Open the taps on upper levels to prevent air lock in the pipes
- Pour antifreeze into inaccessible areas, like plumbing traps



### 3. Switch off the main breaker

- Turn off secondary or "branch" circuits one at a time
- Start with branch circuits that power big appliances
- Turn off the main circuit breaker last



### 4. Troubleshoot your trees

- Trim any tree branches less than 3 metres from power lines
- For the safety of person trimming trees, request a Temporary Disconnect ahead of time

**If the line is on Hydro One property, call us at 1-888-664-9376 or log in to *myAccount* to request Tree Trimming. This one-stop shop is the easiest way to manage your account online!**

#### WE'RE HERE TO HELP



**1-888-664-9376**

Weekdays 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



**1-800-434-1235** for power outages and emergencies



**CALL OR CLICK BEFORE YOU DIG TO LOCATE**

**UNDERGROUND UTILITIES**

**1-800-400-2255 • WWW.ONTARIOONECALL.CA**

# If you're ... keeping the power on



## 1. Empty the fridge

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## 2. Turn off the water

- Switch off the water pump and hot water heater
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- Pour antifreeze into inaccessible areas, like plumbing traps



## 3. Turn off selected breakers

- Decide which mechanical systems and appliances you won't need over winter
- Identify the secondary or "branch" circuit for each one and switch it off



## 4. Unplug your appliances

- Avoid phantom power by identifying small appliances and lights you won't need
- If they don't have a dedicated circuit breaker, unplug them from their outlets



## 5. Check your heaters

- If you have space heaters or electric baseboards, turn off the power on each unit
- Cold temperatures can often trigger heaters to turn on automatically – a definite fire hazard



## 6. Leave the main breaker

- Check that you've switched off the circuit breakers you won't need over winter
- Leave the main circuit breaker in the "on" position



## 7. Monitor your use

- Sign up for outage alerts to receive notice of a power outage by text or email
- Use *myAccount* to view your electricity use and see if there's been a service disruption



## 8. Troubleshoot your trees

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