Last Thanksgiving, 43 million Americans drove 50 miles or more to carve the turkey with their friends and family. And, last year, 30% of Americans traveled 50 miles or more from home during the year-end holiday season.

If you’re traveling this holiday season, complete this simple checklist to ensure your home is secure when you’re away.

**UNDER LOCK AND KEY**

- Have you locked every door or window, including the door to your garage?
- Have you secured your pet doors (if any)?
- Have you double-checked securing your sliding doors (if any)?
- If you have a home security system, have you activated it?
- Have you locked up your ladders, tools, and lawn furniture?
- Have you put your valuables in a safe or safety deposit box?
- Have you removed any “hidden” keys?

**KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR**

Have you asked a trusted neighbor to:

- Watch your house?
- Hold onto your emergency contact information?
- Collect any newspapers, flyers, or mail that might arrive?
- Park a car in your driveway?

**ANYONE HOME?**

- Have you considered putting lights, TVs, or radios on intermittent timers?
- Have you trimmed any overgrown trees or shrubbery?
- Have you considered installing motion-sensing lights?
- Have you broken down any large cardboard boxes?
- Have you avoided posting about your travel plans on social media?

About 40% of burglaries don’t involve forcible entry. Just by properly securing your home, you can reduce your chances of unlawful intrusion.

In a survey of burglars, 51% checked for a car in the driveway before committing their crime.

In the same survey, 60% of burglars would avoid a ‘target’ if there was any evidence of people being inside.

Happy holidays from your friends at ProtectAmerica.com