

Road Trip Short Checklist

By Fae Fisher

- ☐ Trip Planning
 - ☐ Choose the dates of our road trip.
 - ☐ In July and August, be prepared for crowds at the national parks and other popular destinations.
 - ☐ How far is this trip?
 - ☐ How much will the road trip cost?
 - ☐ How many stops are planned?
 - ☐ Find out if there are any special events happening along your route that you might want to see or avoid.
 - ☐ Leave plenty of extra time on your trip to be spontaneous.
- ☐ Your Car
 - ☐ Check the fluids.
 - ☐ Check the hoses and belts.
 - ☐ Check the tires.
 - ☐ Get any scheduled or needed maintenance performed before you leave.
 - ☐ Don't forget to check the spare tire.
 - ☐ Pack your car with all your gear to see if everything will fit.
- ☐ Your Family
 - ☐ Take toys and games that will keep your family occupied.
 - ☐ Bring along a few surprises to pull out in case of crankiness.
 - ☐ Pack snacks.
 - ☐ Pack some basic safety items in the trunk.
 - ☐ Bring along some plastic bags and moist towelettes to help keep messes contained.
 - ☐ Do special things you only do on road trips.
- ☐ Your Home
 - ☐ Unplug electrical appliances.
 - ☐ Shut off the water main.
 - ☐ Turn down the heat or air conditioning.
 - ☐ Check that all windows and doors are closed and locked.

- ☐ Have your mail and newspapers held, or ask a neighbor to pick them up for you.
- ☐ Install a timer on one or two lamps, to give the appearance that someone is home.