

For more information contact:
Lana Simon
Coldwell Banker Gundaker
847-313-6770
lane.simon@cbexchange.com

MOVING TIPS FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION

ST. LOUIS, MO (April 18, 2011) – Whether it's a bright new beginning or an emotional departure, failing to plan ahead and properly prepare can make moving difficult. Whether you're relocating down the block or across the country, taking the right steps in advance can save time and energy when packing up your life and moving.

“A new home is exciting, but the process of moving can be quite stressful. However, planning and preparation can significantly decrease your level of stress,” said Jim Dohr, president of Coldwell Banker Gundaker. “It is possible to make the experience less hectic and more organized. The goal is to get happily settled into your new home as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

Consider these pieces of advice as you prepare for your big day:

- **Get organized.** First, scour closets and storage spaces and organize items in three piles; sell, donate or move. Next, create room lists, for your future home, assigning the items you decide to keep to specific rooms. Finally, take an inventory of each room in your current home consisting of all of the items that need to be packed.
- **Notify all authorities.** Give the post office, utility service providers, friends and family early warnings of your new address. The process of disconnecting and then restarting services can be time consuming, so generate a comprehensive checklist early on.
- **Pack “smart.”** Packing one room at a time will make the unpacking process much easier. Labeling one or two boxes per room, packed with essential items you will need immediately, with “Open Me First” will also help eliminate headaches.
- **Save receipts.** Before you move, create a folder to hold receipts accumulated throughout the move. Some of your expenses can be deductible on your next tax return.

Coldwell Banker Gundaker, the leading residential real estate brokerage company in St. Louis, operates 23 offices with nearly 2,000 sales associates serving metropolitan St. Louis and east-central Missouri. Coldwell Banker Gundaker is part of NRT LLC, the nation's largest residential real estate brokerage company. NRT, a subsidiary of Realogy Corporation, operates Realogy's company-owned real estate brokerage offices. For more information, please visit www.cb Gundaker.com.

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