



39 THINGS TO DO IN A LIGHT HOUSE THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. Wallpaper border
2. Replace outlet covers and switch plates to coordinating colors
3. Install stick-on tile in bathroom, kitchen, entry hall, and porch
4. Strip, sand, paint, stencil, decal old cabinets
5. Replace cabinet handles
6. Replace or add medicine cabinet
7. Assemble and add shelves/drawers from Home Depot, Target, etc.
8. Replace doorbell
9. Add phone jack in bedroom with phone, if needed
10. Caulk and weather-strip windows and doors
11. Improve stability of railings and banisters
12. Add grab bars
13. Add no-slip strips in tub
14. Add no-slip strips on stairs, especially to basement
15. Install motion detector lights
16. Install smoke detectors (one per floor and outside every bedroom)
17. Install carbon monoxide detectors (one per floor)
18. Replace old blinds and shades
19. Improve locks and limit number of keys necessary



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20. Install spray shower attachment and rod in older bathtubs
21. Add backsplash behind sinks
22. Install ceiling fan
23. Re-caulk or re-grout old tubs and tile
24. Add tub bench and other ADA features
25. Replace faucets
26. Replace stove vent or hood
27. Build cover for old radiators
28. Clean out basement; haul stuff to dumpster
29. Help organize safe storage (see below)
30. Add towel racks
31. Replace old mailboxes; label them correctly
32. Remove old carpet and prepare floor for new installation
33. Clean gutters and downspouts
34. Replace or add lattice under porch
35. Add planter boxes on porch
36. Replace or add basketball hoop, swing, etc.
37. Repair fence
38. Make sure gate and garage are secure and locked



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39. Yard work and landscaping

SAFE STORAGE

In the warm, safe, dry continuum, don't overlook the importance of safe storage. Particularly with elderly residents and older homes, fire, insects, and accidental falls are made more likely if closets, stairwells, hallways, enclosed porches, and basements are cluttered and dysfunctional.

1 Priority: Throw Out!

In early April, we will be sent each homeowner some stickers that say "THROW OUT". If appropriate, you may need to follow up and encourage them to identify items that your volunteer team will haul out to the trash on April 26th. Items such as broken appliances, possessions left by old tenants, or things that have been ruined by years of improper storage are good candidates for disposal.

#2 Priority: Sort

Use unskilled volunteers to help the homeowner repack items he/she wants to keep, using new boxes or containers. Label each container clearly. *It maybe helpful to the homeowner if you bring boxes to the home prior to event day, then they may begin the sorting process early.*

#3 Priority: Organize Within Reach

Use utility shelves and closet organizing systems to put things within reach. Add sturdy hooks in closets and stairwells. Free standing storage and shelving units, as well as materials for building shelves, are available at Home Depot, Target, and other vendors. Add long light pulls with handles to overhead light fixtures.