love your hut

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We've got winter wrapped up!

Dear Hutter

With winter just around the corner, you might be thinking about closing up your hut until next spring. Beach huts are particularly vulnerable during the winter months, not only to storms but to fire and vandalism too.

Your hut is important to you, that's why it's important to us, so we've put together some useful tips to help wrap up your hut and protect it during the winter.

It's not just about insurance and reducing the risk of a claim – we've also included some practical advice on maintenance for your hut and its contents.

Protect your hut from the weather – Check that roof coverings are fixed down with galvanised pins and roof battens.

Avoid fire risk – remove debris such as wood and paper from underneath and around your hut. Make sure the gas is turned off and open taps on cookers, hobs and barbecues to draw through any excess gas.

Be secure – lock your hut with heavy duty padlocks bolts and security bars. Preserve your padlocks and protect from rusting by spraying them with a lubricant. Wipe with petroleum jelly, wrap with cling film and then tie a plastic bag tight around the padlock. **Prevent damp and mildew** – by removing fabric items from your hut. A desiccant water trap; placed in the middle of your hut; will catch any moisture. Make sure doors are shut properly to prevent warping. Try to leave some ventilation whilst maintaining the security of your hut.

Prevent rodents – Empty any bins, remove all perishable food and put a plug in the sink to deter those rodents.

Finally, keep checking your hut as often as possible or ask someone to keep an eye on it for you.

Remember, at Love Your Hut, we're working closely with Beach hut owners and Owners' Associations throughout Britain, making sure your beach hut is looked after and kept in good shape, all year round.

If you would like any more information on the benefits of Beach Hut Owners' Associations, practical advice on looking after your hut or to discuss Insurance arrangements, contact your local association secretary or contact us on:

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