

A Message from the President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®

I've Sold My Home. Who Do I Tell I'm Moving?

By, Dennis Gonatas

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Once you've decided where you're moving to, it's time to let everyone know the good news! And your social media posts filled with pictures of your new place aren't entirely going to do the job. Changing your address is one of those things you can't put off. Doing so can cause overdue bills, costly billing errors, service interruptions, and can even leave you vulnerable to identity theft. Here are some of the places you'll need to update your address after selling your home.

Top Places To Change Your Address

US Postal Service. Address changes can be done online for \$1 with a credit or debit card or by picking up the good old fashioned paper form at your local post office. It will help catch anything you've forgotten.

Utilities and Information Services: Electric, gas, water, cell phone, TV, and internet. After selling your home, you'll have to set up a turn off date for your current residence and a turn-on time for your new one along with changing the billing address.

Current Employer: Notify your current employer about your move even if you're staying with the same company. They'll need to know where to send your W2's if they're not available electronically.

IRS: If you expect to get a refund via check, this is extra important because some post offices won't forward government checks. If you're moving around tax time, you can file a change of address with your return.

DMV, Voter Registration, and Social Security: You'll only need to change your address with Social Security if you're currently receiving benefits. Any other government agencies you receive benefits from or offices you need to deal with regularly will need to be added to this list too. If you're moving further away, they may be able to direct you to services in your new area.

Insurance Companies: Health insurance, homeowner's or renter's insurance, car insurance, and life insurance.

Banks, Financial Institutions, Credit Card Companies, and Lenders: You may be changing banks but will probably be keeping other accounts like investment, retirement and credit cards including personal, auto, or student loans.

Schools.

Additional Places To Notify

Home Services: Landscaping, gardening, lawn mowing, cleaning services, pool maintenance, and any other recurring home maintenance services you're paying.

Doctors, Dentists & Veterinarians.

Subscription services and online retailers: Ones you buy from frequently or get recurring shipments from Religious, community, or recreational groups and clubs.

Make Updating Your Address Easier

Lots of organizations allow you to change your address online, either through an online form, e-mail, or chat with a customer service representative. Some companies will still require you to call.

The US Postal Service, DMV, and most voter registrations allow you to fill out a web-based form to change your address.

If you have a lot of people to notify, especially friends and family, you may want to send out postcards. You can use templates found on Canva.com or in Microsoft Office to design your own.

The TouchNote app allows you to create custom postcards and even mails them for you.

The by-invitation-only app, Updater, can manage the address changes for you and help you coordinate utility services, book a mover, and even get insurance.

If you want to notify some friends and family via social media, opt for private messages.

The process of updating your address is even more critical when you're selling your home and moving out of state. Keeping everyone informed will make things easier during this stressful and exciting time.

County Totals:

Mahoning: 477 on the Market, 761 Sold, 253.67 Average Sold Each Month, 1.88 Months of Inventory left, 159.54% Chance of selling your home in 90 days

Columbiana: 229 on the Market, 233 Sold, 77.67 Average Sold Each Month, 2.95 Months of Inventory left, 101.75% Chance of selling your home in 90 days

Trumbull: 346 on the Market, 553 Sold, 184.33 Average Sold Each Month, 1.88 Months of Inventory left, 159.83% Chance of selling your home in 90 days

Dennis Gonatas is the 2022 President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®