



Chicago Rabbinical Council  
2701 W Howard, Chicago IL 60645  
773-465-3900

## cRc Guidelines for Those Leaving Home Before Passover

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**Note:** For specific questions about these laws please consult your Orthodox Rabbi.

### **BEDIKAT CHAMETZ — SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ**

As outlined in the *Shulchan Aruch* (Rabbi Joseph Karo's Code of Jewish Law), any one leaving home before the traditional evening of *bedikat chametz*, must carry out the search on the night before he or she departs. However, since this is not the normal evening for *bedika*, no *bracha* is recited. Another option is to appoint a *heliach* — agent— to perform the *bedika* at the normal time. On the morning of *Erev Passover* Saturday, April 19, 2008, the statement of *bitul* should be pronounced at the required time of the place where the *chametz* is kept.

### **MECHIRAT CHAMETZ — SELLING THE CHAMETZ**

Because of differing opinions regarding those who travel to Eastern time zones (where the holiday begins earlier) a separate sale of *chametz* is arranged earlier in the home community for those traveling towards the Eastern time zones. Another option would be the transfer of the *chametz* as a gift to someone else who remains in the community; the recipient of the gift would arrange the sale of the *chametz*. Call your Orthodox Rabbi for the proper forms or for questions regarding international travel