

newsworthy trends

Moving? Switch Banks Before You Leave Home

(NAPSA)—When moving to a new home, many Americans are forced to switch banks as their current bank doesn't offer branches in their new neighborhood. This means that before they unpack their boxes, they must spend valuable time hunting for a new bank that offers the services, rates and convenience they desire.

If you're one of the 40 million Americans who will be moving this year, now may be the perfect time to consider switching to an Internet (branchless) bank.

For starters, Internet banks let you set up your new account before you leave your old home. NetBank (www.netbank.com), for example, allows you to use your home computer to open your new account, transfer funds from your former neighborhood bank into the new account, and order checks with your new address — all before you start packing your belongings.

An Internet bank will continue to save you time once you are settled by providing you access to free online bill pay services. This allows you to pay all your bills via the Internet, and will give you more time to get to know your new neighborhood.

The No. 1 advantage of Internet banks is that they can afford to pay their customers more interest on deposits and charge fewer fees because they avoid the



Before you start packing, you may want to start shopping for a new bank.

high operation costs associated with running a network of bank branches. NetBank, the nation's first commercially successful Internet bank, pays its customers up to four times more interest than the national average paid by "brick and mortar" neighborhood banks.

In addition, since most Internet banks are accessible in every corner of the country that has access to the Internet, choosing an Internet bank now means you may never have to switch banks again — even if you relocate again in the future. So before you pack the boxes and have the garage sale, open an Internet bank account from the comfort of your own home and start earning the interest you deserve.