



Preventing Frozen Pipes

Inside

- ❑ Open the cabinets in your kitchen and bathrooms to allow heated air to circulate around the water pipes.
- ❑ Set your thermostat to no less than 55 degrees, especially when you are gone for the day or away for a long time.
- ❑ Let indoor faucets drip slowly – a slow drip keeps water flowing and helps prevent it from freezing in the pipes.

Outside

- ❑ Protect faucets, outdoor pipes, and pipes in unheated areas with pipe insulation. If insulation is not an option, consider wrapping them with rags, newspapers, trash bags, plastic foam or bubble wrap.
- ❑ Cover vents around your home's foundation so the draft can't sneak in.
- ❑ Drain water hoses and store them in a garage or shed.
- ❑ Drain irrigation water supply lines.
- ❑ Make sure you know where your main water shut-off valve is. Most homes have a master valve or a main water shut-off that allows you to turn off the water in an emergency.
- ❑ If you suspect you have a leak, turn the water off at that main shut-off valve. If you drain your pipes, you must turn off the power to your water heater if it is electric and/or the gas supply line to the water heater if it runs on gas.

If your pipes do freeze, contact a professional plumber who may be able to thaw the pipes with warm air.