

WINTER WEATHER WATER GUIDE

Handy tips to keep your pipes from freezing

Before winter sets in

- Be sure to insulate any pipes in the crawlspace and attic areas.
- Heat tape or temperature-controlled heat cables can be wrapped around pipes to keep them from freezing.
- Seal any air leaks in your home or building that could allow cold air near the location of the water pipes.
- Disconnect garden hoses, replace outside faucets with frost free faucets.
- Turn off irrigation.



What to do when freezing temperatures arrive

- A slow drip of water will help keep pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight and during frigid temperatures. This is a tried-and-true method used for decades.
- Set the thermostat at the same temperature during the day and night during frigid weather.
- Open the cabinets so that the pipes have more access to the heat in the rooms.



What to do if your pipes freeze

- It may be possible to thaw a frozen pipe with a hair dryer or space heater (never leave a space heater unattended: Risk of Fire)
- If your pipes have burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff.
- Don't use electrical appliances in areas of standing water.
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame because it could cause further damage or a fire.
- Call a water repair company (plumber) and your home insurance company if necessary.

