

WaterSource

Winter Is Coming! Take Steps to Prevent Frozen Pipes

The pipes in your home can freeze in cold weather. This can leave you with no water or cause your pipes to burst, leading to expensive property damage. Protect your home. Follow these steps to help prevent your pipes from freezing.

Know your Pipes

- Ensure you know where the main water shut-off valve is in your home and how it operates.

Insulate Pipes

- Wrap foam pipe insulation around pipes most at risk, especially near outside walls and in crawl spaces, the attic and garage.

Eliminate Drafts

- Seal air leaks in your home and garage to stop cold air from getting in. Check around windows and doors, electrical wiring, dryer vents and pipes.

Drain and Shut the Outdoor Water Supply

- Outdoor faucets are the first to freeze. Unscrew any hoses, turn off the outdoor water supply and let the taps drain.

Contact a Plumber

- If your pipes are prone to freezing, there may be a problem you cannot see. Get professional help on ways you can decrease your risks inside and out.

When the Weather Drops Well Below Zero

Keep your Pipes Warm

- Keep areas that contain indoor pipes above 8°C, especially near the water meter. Open cabinet doors to allow warm air to circulate and keep your garage door closed.

Turn on the Tap

- For your own peace of mind, you can choose to run a pencil-thin stream of water to ensure some movement of water in the pipes. However, you will be charged for the water used if you choose this step.