

Winter Weather Preparedness Tips



PROTECT INDOOR PIPES

Open cabinets beneath kitchen and bathroom sinks to allow warmer air to circulate around pipes. Be sure to remove any toxic substances located in these cabinets if there are children or pets in the home. If you feel your pipes may still freeze, allow faucets to drip slowly.

OUTSIDE FAUCETS

Turn off outside faucets. Disconnect all hoses and wrap faucets with towels or a Styrofoam insulator. Turn off automatic sprinkler systems.

PREPARE BEFORE LEAVING TOWN

If you plan to be away during a time when freezing temperatures are possible, turn off your water at the meter and set your thermostat to 65 degrees or higher.

LOCATE YOUR WATER SHUTOFF VALVE

Make sure everyone in your residence knows where the water main shutoff valve is located and keep it clear of debris and obstacles at all times. For most homes, the shutoff valve is on your side of the water meter at the meter box. You may need a water meter key to open the meter box, which can be purchased at most hardware stores.

BRING PETS INSIDE

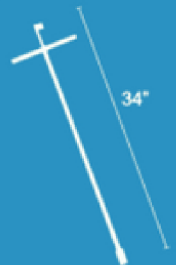
If it's too cold for you, it's too cold for your pets! If it isn't possible to bring dogs inside, make sure they have a dry, draft-free doghouse with plenty of cedar shavings or straw.

PRACTICE SAFETY

Don't use extension cords with space heaters or leave them unattended. Replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and keep fire extinguishers on hand. House fires pose an additional risk, as more people turn to alternate heating sources.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES to have on hand:

- **WATER METER KEY** to access your meter box if necessary



- **INSULATION** for indoor and outdoor pipes



- **HOSE BIB COVERS** for outdoor faucets



- Battery powered **RADIO** and **FLASHLIGHT**



- Have enough water for **1 GALLON PER PERSON PER DAY FOR 7 DAYS**

