

PREPPING YOUR PLUMBING FOR FREEZING

Even if you live in a location where freezing weather is a rare occurrence, it's important to prep your plumbing when temperatures start to drop. Below are some preventative steps you can take to avoid plumbing damage and high repair costs during a deep freeze.



LET THE WATER DRIP

Water expands as it freezes, creating an icy blockage that increases pressure and causes pipes to burst. Letting the faucet drip during cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. Even if the water inside it has frozen. This is because the dripping faucet relieves the built up pressure.



GARAGE DOORS

Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines inside the garage.



SWIMMING POOLS AND SPRINKLERS

Drain water from the swimming pool. Do not put antifreeze into these lines unless directed to do so by a qualified technician. Consider a Freeze Protection Control (freeze guard) which automatically turn on your pump and heater when temperatures drop below freezing.



DRAIN IT. STORE IT.

Remove, drain and store hoses that are used outdoors. If you have inside valves that supply outdoor hose bibs, close them, then open outdoor hose bibs to allow water to drain.



CIRCULATE

Keep warm air circulating around your plumbing indoors by leaving kitchen and bathroom cabinets open. Remember to move any harmful cleaners or chemicals up out of reach of children or pets. Keep the thermostat set to 55 degrees Fahrenheit or higher if leaving your home for an extended period.



INSULATE

Consult a trained technician about the installation of specific products that are made to insulate pipes. Products such as a "pipe sleeve" or "heat tape" can protect plumbing in extreme weather.