

EXTREME COLD ALERT

An exceptionally *bitter cold* front is approaching and will linger for an extensive period of time. We highly recommend you take necessary precautions to minimize possible dangers to your home.

- Keep your thermostat(s) set at a higher temperature.
 - Although setting back your thermostat at night may reduce your fuel bill, during extreme cold conditions doing this makes your heating system difficult to recover during the day. If you have a programmable thermostat you can temporarily set a fixed temperature by pressing HOLD.
- Allow faucets to trickle.
 - Running pipes do not freeze as easily as inactive ones. Slightly opening hot and cold faucets to a slow dribble will lower the risk of freezing pipes. This is not recommended for septic-cesspool systems.
- Make sure outdoor faucets are isolated.
 - Any pressurized outdoor faucets are guaranteed to freeze and have the potential to burst. Close off all valves leading outside and be sure to drain any residual water from the faucets.
- Open your blinds during the day.
 - Natural sunlight will help to warm your home during the day. Be sure to close your blinds at night. Covering your windows with blankets may also help to create a draft barrier.
- Know where your emergency water main shut off valve is located.
 - If you have an incident where a pipe bursts, shut your water main off immediately. Find the lowest sink in your home and open both hot and cold faucets. Doing this will relieve the pressure in the pipes allowing it to retract down towards a drain rather than out the burst pipe and into your home.

Most houses in our area are not designed for arctic conditions. Homes that are under-insulated and under-radiated may be more susceptible to these risks. If you have an incident where a pipe bursts, you should know where your water main is located.

If you have any further concerns we are here to help you battle the cold!

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