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Do-it-yourself protection can prevent your pipes from freezing

We have a very cold week ahead!

Pipes are at risk of freezing when temperatures drop below 32 degrees Fahrenheit, but they most commonly freeze at temperatures of 20 degrees and below.

What pipes are more likely to freeze?

Since metal pipes have higher thermal conductivity and thinner walls than plastic piping, water will freeze somewhat faster in metal pipes. But if the weather stays cold enough, long enough, any pipe can freeze.

Here some easy tips to protect your pipes:

- When you have removed your hose from your outside spigot for the season, make sure no water is coming out of the spigot. Protect the outside spigot from freezing temperature and winds by covering it with an inexpensive cover you can find from hardware stores or online. Just Google “spigot covers” to see what the products look like. Here’s a great article about winterizing your spigots: <https://www.thespruce.com/winterize-outside-faucets-2718702>
- Pipes along the outside of your home are more likely to freeze than inside pipes. For example, many kitchen lines are located at an exterior wall. It’s best to keep a consistent trickle over night and open the cabinet beneath the sink. This will allow warmer air to access piping.
- Pipes located in an internal powder room or bathroom in the middle of the home are less likely to freeze as long as the temperature in the home is consistent. We do recommend, however, especially if temperatures hit well below 20 degrees, to still open the faucet to create a consistent trickling and open any cabinets that have plumbing pipes inside of them.
- To keep the warm air consistent in your home, keep the furnace fan motor on. It levels out the temperature within the home. You can turn on the fan at your thermostat.
- If you go out of town, do not turn your heat down. Keep the furnace fan motor on and cabinets open that have piping.

You might pay a couple dollars more in your water bill or heating bill, but if your pipes burst from freezing temperatures, you will be paying thousands of dollars for not only the pipe repair but also for any water damage that may occur if the pipe ruptures and leaks.

Should you find that you have a frozen pipe, contact **Aqua Flow Plumbing**. We use state-of-the-art pipe thawing equipment to thaw frozen metallic piping without opening the drywall before the pipe ruptures and leaks.

Be sure to contact **Aqua Flow Plumbing** for all of your general plumbing issues. Mention code “Winter Freeze 2024” to receive 10% your next plumbing repair. Discount code available until March 15, 2024.

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