

# Winter Weather



## Winterizing Your Home: Pipes

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Frozen pipes are a common problem in areas where plumbing is exposed to frigid temperatures. Insulating your pipes is strongly recommended to prevent freezing and bursting. Here are several tips to keep your plumbing safe and dry through the frigid winter months.



### Preventing Frozen Pipes:

- Take measures to insulate your pipes before winter strikes to minimize wear and tear and secure optimum longevity.
- Identify potential freeze spots. Pipe freezing most commonly occurs in areas exposed to the coldest temperatures, such as outside walls, attics, or crawl spaces.
- Focus pipe insulation on potential trouble spots.
- During severe downturns in the temperature, leave your faucets open slightly. A small drop of water can prevent pipes from freezing.

### Pipe Insulation Tips:

Insulating your home's pipes is usually easy and may prevent expensive emergency repairs. The common types of pipe insulation include:

- Foam. The additional use of duct tape to reinforce the fit of self-adhesive strips is recommended.
- Fiberglass. Less rigid and more malleable to odd pipe lengths and angles.
- Heat Tape. Relies on a low electrical current to operate; ensure a nearby electrical outlet is available and pipes are not wet or leaking when insulation is installed.

If you discover damage to your pipes at any time during a winter storm, immediately shut off your water supply and contact your local water authority.

For more information about preparing for winter weather, please visit [www.libertymutual.com/winter](http://www.libertymutual.com/winter).

