

Do's and Don'ts to consider when thawing a frozen water pipe.

DON'T:

Use electrical appliances to thaw pipes in areas of standing water. You could get electrocuted!

Try to thaw a pipe with a torch or open flame.

DO:

- ✓ Shut off the main water supply to the home.
- ✓ Waterproof the area with plastic drop cloths or containers.
- ✓ Open faucets to allow water to escape.
- ✓ Wrap the pipe with hot cloths, use a hair dryer or heating pad but only after water-proofing the area. Again, be careful not to allow the electrical cord to come in contact with water.
- ✓ Start from the area closest to the faucet and work your way backward.
- ✓ Contact a plumber for assistance.



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Frozen Pipes... FACTS & PREVENTION

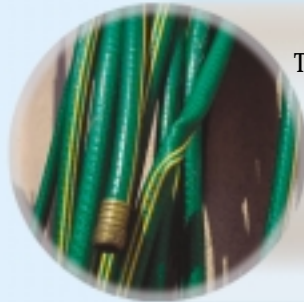


Knowing the facts and following simple prevention tips could save you expense and inconvenience associated with frozen pipes.



FACT:
Frozen pipes have caused millions of dollars in damage over the last decade.

TO AVOID THEM...



Turn off outside faucets and disconnect hoses. Do this at the interior shut off valve if possible.

Avoid frozen pipes in unheated areas by wrapping the pipe with insulation or a UL-approved heat tape.



During bitter cold nights, keep a trickle of water running from the faucets.

Open cabinet doors under sinks and appliances near exterior walls to allow warm air to circulate around the pipes.

Keep the door open between a heated room and an unheated room to allow warm air to circulate.

Never reduce your heat below 55°F.



Drain the water from pipes if you are leaving for an extended period of time and have your home checked daily while you are gone.



These simple suggestions may help you avoid water damage that can destroy your property or possibly render your home unlivable until repaired.

FACT:

An eighth of an inch crack in a pipe can release 250 gallons of water in a day.



If you find your faucet not working or that you have lost heat in a certain area of your home or business, take action immediately.

WHY? If pipes freeze completely, blocking the flow of water, the pipes are more likely to burst causing substantial damage.

