

Tips for keeping your pipes and meters from freezing

During freezing weather there are steps you can take to avoid frozen pipes or meters.

Check around the foundation for places cold air can blow into the basement or crawlspace. Seal them with insulation. Close all crawl space vents around your home. Seal cracks with caulk around door frames, windows and pipes where they enter your home.

Wrap pipes in unheated areas to prevent freezing. These could be located under the home, in the attic or garage. Use insulating tape and wrap it around exposed pipes. Make sure to cover all valves and fittings also.

Open cupboard doors in the kitchen and bathrooms. Water lines are usually on the outside wall and more prone to freezing. Keeping the cupboard doors open allow more heat into the space.

Allow a small trickle of water to run overnight in the faucets farthest from the street or at the end of the system to keep pipes from freezing. It may cost a little more on your water bill, but much less expensive than an emergency call to a plumber.