FROZEN PIPE PLAN

Frozen Pipe Night-Before Checklist

Cold night coming? Work down this list before bed. Sources are the Red Cross, university extension services and FEMA.

OUTSIDE

- [ ] Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses; store them.
- [ ] Close the inside valve to each outdoor faucet, then open the outside faucet to drain.
- [ ] Cover outdoor faucets with an insulated cover or foam dome.
- [ ] Drain pool and sprinkler supply lines as the maker or installer directs. No antifreeze unless directed.

INSIDE THE HOUSE

- [ ] Keep the thermostat at the same setting day and night.
- [ ] Open cabinet doors under kitchen and bathroom sinks, especially on exterior walls.
- [ ] Keep the garage door closed if water lines run through it.
- [ ] Let a faucet drip on pipes along exterior walls or other exposed pipes.

PROTECT EXPOSED PIPES

- [ ] Find unheated spots: basement, crawl space, attic, garage, cabinets.
- [ ] Pipe sleeves or UL-listed heat cable, following the maker's instructions.
- [ ] Seal leaks that let cold air in where pipes are located.

KNOW BEFORE IT HAPPENS

- [ ] Find your main water shut-off valve and make sure everyone knows where it is.
- [ ] Burst pipe? Shut off the main valve first, then call a licensed plumber.
- [ ] Trickle from a faucet in the morning? Suspect a frozen pipe.

IF YOU ARE AWAY

- [ ] Leave the heat on, set no lower than 55°F.
- [ ] Open cabinet doors where there is plumbing.
- [ ] Have someone check the house daily.

NEVER

- [ ] Never thaw a pipe with a torch or any open flame.
- [ ] Never put electrical cords near water.
- [ ] Never ignore a leak: call a plumber if you can't find, reach or thaw the frozen section.

Heat cable and insulation reduce the chance of a freeze but don't replace the basics. General information, not plumbing or electrical advice: hire licensed pros for repairs and wiring.

Free 'Will my pipes freeze tonight?' checker: frozenpipeplan.com/will-my-pipes-freeze-tonight/ · Red Cross, extension and FEMA sources on the site

Frozen Pipe Plan is published by DARCA LLC, Nampa, Idaho. General information only.