



# PROTECT YOUR PIPES

## *This Winter*



### PREVENT FROZEN PIPES

- **Wrap Your Pipes** - Check around your home for areas where water supply lines are located and are in unheated areas. Look in crawl spaces, attics, garages, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets. Both hot and cold water pipes in these areas should be insulated.
- **Let Water Drip** - When the weather is very cold outside (such as at night), let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Make sure to capture this water in a bucket for use elsewhere! Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- **Leave the Heat On** - If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55 degrees fahrenheit.

### TO THAW FROZEN PIPES

- **When in Doubt** - If you turn on a faucet and only a trickle comes out, suspect a frozen pipe. Locate the suspected frozen area of the water pipe. Likely places include pipes running against exterior walls or where your water service enters your home through the foundation.
- **Let Water Run** - Keep the faucet open. As you treat the frozen pipe and the frozen area begins to melt, water will begin to flow through the frozen area.
- **Warm it Up** - Apply heat to the section of pipe using an electric heating pad wrapped around the pipe, an electric hair dryer, a portable space heater (kept away from flammable materials), or wrapping pipes with towels soaked in hot water. Apply heat until full water pressure is restored.
- **Do NOT use a blowtorch, kerosene or propane heater, charcoal stove, or other open flame device.**
- **Check it Out** - Check all other faucets in your home to find out if you have additional frozen pipes. If one pipe freezes, other may freeze too.
- **Call for Help** - If you are unable to locate the frozen area or have other problems, call a licensed plumber.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND OTHER USEFUL TIPS, CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.PPHCS.D.ORG](http://WWW.PPHCS.D.ORG). OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM!