

Winter Preparations

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DON'T LET A COLD SNAP CATCH YOU BY SURPRISE! Prepare ahead of time to be sure you have done everything you can to help avoid leaks, burst water pipes, and furnace outages to limit your liability.

- **WRAP OR COVER EXTERIOR FAUCETS.** You may already have covers at the residence. If not, they are very inexpensive to purchase at home improvement stores. They look similar to the image on the right. If they are missing or have blown away, covering the faucets is still your responsibility.
- **DETACH ALL EXTERIOR GARDEN HOSES.**
- **CHANGE YOUR FURNACE FILTER REGULARLY** (every month is best)! Clogged filters lead to furnace outages. The furnace needs air to flow easily. Dirty filters put undue strain on the system and cause outages. During cold temperatures, furnace companies become very busy and the interior temperature can become very cold, very quickly.
- **LOCATE YOUR WATER SHUT-OFF NOW.** All occupants should be familiar with the location of the water shut-off. Keep the path clear to the shut-off. You don't want to be moving boxes or other heavy items to get to the shut-off in the event of a leak.
- **WHEN FREEZING OR BELOW FREEZING TEMPERATURES ARE EXPECTED:**
 - OPEN CABINET DOORS UNDERNEATH SINKS** to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.
 - TURN INTERIOR FAUCETS TO A SLIGHT DRIP.**
 - SET THE THERMOSTAT TO A MINIMUM OF 60-65 DEGREES** so that in the event of a power or heat outage, the interior temperature will take longer to cool.
- **KEEP A FLASHLIGHT HANDY.**
- **IF YOU SUSPECT A GAS LEAK, LEAVE THE RESIDENCE IMMEDIATELY AND THE AREA IMMEDIATELY, THEN CONTACT PUGET SOUND ENERGY AT 1-888-225-5773 OR 911.**
- If you will be on vacation during winter months, we highly recommend you contact us to hire a contractor to **WINTERIZE THE HOME** to prevent major damage in the event a water pipe bursts while you are gone. You should also check your renter's insurance policy for coverage due to your negligence if you do not prepare the home for vacation.



FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

Such as leaking water, clogged sewer line, no heat or property damage, call 253-200-1351. If you have not heard from anyone within 10 minutes, call our backup emergency line at 253-254-5435.