

With winter just around the corner, it's time to prepare your home for freezing temperatures. A sudden freeze can lead to burst pipes, water damage, and costly repairs. To help you safeguard your home, we've put together a comprehensive guide on winterizing your home. Here's what you need to do:

- **1. Shut Off the Water Supply:** Locate your home shut-off valve, usually near the water meter, inside or outside your home.
- Shut off the valve to stop water flow to your house.
- **2. Open All Taps:** Open all water spigots and taps to allow water to drain from the pipes. This prevents trapped water from freezing.
- **3. Drain the Hot Water Tank:** Open the drain valve on your hot water tank and let it empty completely. Don't forget to drain any water left in the holding tank, especially in the rubber diaphragm.
- **4. Prepare Toilets:** Flush your toilets to remove as much water as possible from both the tank and the bowls.
- **5. Insulate Water Lines:** Wrap and insulate all exposed water and irrigation lines to prevent freezing.
- **6. Monitor Water Usage:** Create an EyeOnWater account to keep an eye on your water usage and set up leak alert notifications.
- **7. Store Garden Hoses:** Remove garden hoses from outdoor faucets and store them inside to prevent damage.

- **8. Drain the Sprinkler System:** Ensure your sprinkler system is drained to prevent damage from freezing water.
- **9. Insulate Exterior Pipes:** Protect exterior pipes by insulating them with pipe wrap or foam sleeves.
- **10. Drain Backflow Prevention Assemblies:** Make sure to drain your backflow prevention assemblies to prevent freezing and damage.
- **11. Check the Water Heater:** Flush and inspect your water heater for leaks and ensure it's in good working condition.

By following these steps, you can protect your home from the potential hazards of freezing temperatures. Winterizing your home is a proactive measure that can save you from costly repairs and inconvenience during the colder months. Stay warm, safe, and worry-free this winter season by taking these essential precautions. Don't wait until it's too late – start preparing your home for the upcoming freeze today!

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