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WINTER WATER NOTICE

Tips to Prevent Frozen Water Pipes During Extreme Cold

Issued by:
Hazleton City Authority Water Department

Freezing temperatures can cause water pipes to freeze and burst, resulting in **costly property damage, water loss, and service disruptions**. Please follow these tips during periods of extreme cold weather.

INSIDE YOUR HOME

Keep Heat On

- Maintain indoor temperatures at **55°F or higher**, even overnight or when away.
- Do not turn heat off in unused rooms.

Open Cabinet Doors

- Open cabinets under kitchen and bathroom sinks, especially those located on **exterior walls**, to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.

Let Faucets Drip

- During the coldest nights, allow a **slow drip** (pencil-lead sized stream) from one or two faucets.
- Focus on pipes located along outside walls or upper floors.

Seal Drafts

- Seal air leaks around windows, doors, and pipe penetrations through walls or foundations.
 - Cold air blowing directly on pipes can cause rapid freezing.
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BASEMENTS, GARAGES & CRAWLSPACES

- Insulate exposed water pipes with foam pipe insulation.
 - Keep garage doors closed.
 - Protect pipes in unheated areas using insulation or **approved heat tape**.
 - Close crawlspace vents during extreme cold where appropriate for your home.
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OUTDOOR FAUCETS & SERVICE LINES

- Disconnect garden hoses.
 - Shut off and drain outdoor faucets if interior shutoff valves are present.
 - Leave outdoor spigots open after draining.
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WARNING SIGNS OF FROZEN PIPES

- Reduced or no water flow
- Frost visible on pipes
- Unusual odors coming from drains

If a pipe freezes:

- Leave the faucet open.
 - Apply gentle heat (hair dryer, warm towels).
 - **Never use open flames.**
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BE PREPARED

- Know the location of your **main water shutoff valve**.
- If a pipe bursts, shut off the water immediately and contact a licensed plumber.