

FREEZE ALERT

Area weather forecast for Northeast Arkansas has our temperature to drop below freezing starting Thursday night December 22. The temperature will remain below freezing until Monday, December 26. These four (4) days of below freezing temperatures can potentially cause everyone serious problems. Pipes can freeze and burst during these temperatures.

Here are just a few tips that might help during these temperatures:

1. Check your plumbing to see if it pipes are exposed. If pipes are exposed, try to insulate them.
2. At night try setting each of your faucets to a slow drip.
3. Open your cabinet doors under sinks, so heat can circulate in the cabinets where water lines are located.
4. Open the door to your washroom.
5. If your water heater is located outside in the garage or along the exterior wall, place towels or blankets along the bottom of the door to help seal it. This will keep the heat in the area.
6. If you live in a mobile home, check the outside wall around the water heater for open areas allowing cold air to enter and make sure the underpinning is intact.
7. Remove water hoses and cover outside faucets with covers or something to protect them from the wind.
8. If you have pets and they are outside, make sure they have a house/building, something they can get in out of the cold. Put bedding such as old blankets or wood shavings inside it to lay on for warmth. Check their water/food multiple times daily.
9. Be very cautious when using space heaters for a primary source of heat. Don't overload electrical circuits. Plug them directly into the wall (do not use a power strip or extension cord.) Place the heater at least 3 feet away from anything that is flammable such as furniture, curtains or bedding.

If you try these suggestions, hopefully, they will help everyone get through this first extremely cold snap of the winter season without having to call a plumber for any major issues. If traveling over Christmas holiday, remember to carry extra blankets and clothes, for warmth in case your vehicle gets stuck or has mechanical issues.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor