



PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WINTER

Proper winterizing as the weather cools down can save you headaches, time and money. Here are a few easy recommendations for preserving your home.

OUTSIDE PLUMBING

1. Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses. This will protect your investment in the hoses and connected faucets. Covering the faucet with insulation is also a good idea.
2. Insulate exposed pipes or faucets in unheated areas. Local hardware stores carry a variety of pipe insulation materials, including insulating tape and molded pipe sleeves.
3. Locate and identify the master shutoff. If you have a freezing problem, it can be found quickly.
4. Drain outdoor sprinklers. Check manufacturer's instructions for the best way to do this.
5. Caulk around pipes where they enter the house. This will stop cold winter wind from blowing into the house and accelerating the freezing process.

INSIDE PLUMBING

1. Wrap all pipes in unheated areas. Make sure to check crawl spaces, attic, garage, etc. Use materials as suggested for outdoor facilities.
2. Open cupboard doors in the kitchen and bathrooms. Water lines that supply the kitchen and bathroom may run along the outside walls of your house. Any air leaks in siding or insulation may result in frozen pipes. Allowing warm air to reach these areas will prevent a mishap.
3. Shut off and drain your water system if you will be gone for an extended time. After turning off the water heater, turn off the main shut-off valve. Then, go through your house and turn on all sinks, faucets, showers, tubs, etc and flush the toilets. Draining all the water will prevent frozen pipes from breaking while you are gone

IF YOUR PIPES FREEZE

1. Do not leave pipes unattended. Lines will naturally thaw slowly, or use an indirect source of heat such as a hair dryer on the frozen pipe.
2. Don't use an open flame to thaw frozen water pipes. This is a serious threat to catching your house on fire. Electric arc welders should also not be used. This can also cause fires, or burn out the motors of your freezer and refrigerator.
3. Work from the open faucet toward the frozen area. This will prevent steam from being trapped by ice and busting the pipe. With the faucet open, you can determine when the ice has melted.
4. Call for help. H₂O Consulting can provide advice for problem areas that do not respond to the conventional methods previously described. (281-861-6215).

IF YOUR PIPES ARE BROKEN

1. Shut off the water and water heater. If you are unable to find the master shut-off valve, and water is leaking in the house from a broken pipe, call H₂O Consulting to have your water turned off at the meter, 281-861-6215. Repair of broken pipes on the resident's side of the meter is the homeowner's responsibility and should be fixed by a plumber.

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND HCMUD 208 JOINT SPLASHPAD PROJECT

The Board of Directors of Harris County MUD No. 208 and the Southcreek Village Homeowners Association are working together to improve our community by installing a splash pad at the Southcreek Park at the corner of Park Falls and Royal Gardens. Harris County MUD No 208 is working with Southcreek Village to provide a Water Quality Management System which will conserve water used for the splash pad, thus reducing the water demand on our water system. The splash pad will be accessible to all residents of Harris County MUD No. 208.

TAX RATE REDUCED

The directors of MUD 208 voted to lower the MUD Property Tax Rate from \$0.675 per \$100 valuation to \$0.62 per \$100 valuation, a 9% savings.

Please keep in mind these rates are for MUD 208 only. Other entities such as school districts, hospital district, etc. set their own rates. Any questions regarding MUD taxes can be directed to Bob Leared Interests, the Board's tax consultant at 713-932-9011.

MEET OUR NEWEST DIRECTOR

Harris County MUD 208 has appointed Vicki Burgess as our newest director to replace outgoing Director Darlene Hajduk. Vicki has lived in Houston her whole life and has been a resident of Southdown Village and Harris County MUD No. 208 with her husband and three children since 1994. Along with her commitment to Harris

County MUD No. 208, Vicki is also very active at her children's schools; Lowery Elementary and Aragon Jr. High. In her spare time Vicki enjoys exercising, cooking and being with her family. We are honored to welcome her to the Board.

YOU CAN CONTACT US AT

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