

WINTER WEATHER

PREPARATION TIPS:

- DISCONNECT ALL HOSES AND INSULATE OUTSIDE FAUCETS. FOAM FAUCET COVERS ARE INEXPENSIVE AND VERY EASY TO INSTALL. THEY COME FULLY ASSEMBLED AND CAN BE REUSED EACH SEASON.
- INSULATE WATER PIPES. CHECK AREAS OF THE HOME WHERE PIPES ARE PRONE TO FREEZING SUCH AS A BATHROOM THAT HAS AN OUTSIDE WALL, CRAWL SPACES, ATTICS, AND GARAGES. USE FOAM PIPE INSULATION OR INSULATING TAPE TO COVER THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE EXPOSED PIPE.
- KEEP THE COLD OUT. BOOST YOUR HOME'S ABILITY TO HOLD IN HEAT BY APPLYING WEATHER STRIPPING AROUND DOORS AND WINDOWS OR INSTALL A PLASTIC WINDOW INSULATION KIT.
- OPEN KITCHEN AND BATHROOM CABINET DOORS TO ALLOW WARM AIR TO CIRCULATE AROUND THE PLUMBING.
- IT IS SUGGESTED TO LEAVE YOUR FAUCETS ON A SLIGHT DRIP TO AVOID FROZEN PIPES AND WHEN GOING OUT OF TOWN, SET YOUR THERMOSTAT NO LOWER THAN 55 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.
- TAKE CARE OF OUTDOOR PETS BY BUYING A HEATED WATER BOWL FOR DOGS OR INSTALLING A HEATING ELEMENT IN YOUR CERAMIC BIRDBATH. BRING OUTSIDE PETS IN WHEN TEMPERATURES DROP BELOW FREEZING.
- STOCK UP. PURCHASE IN ADVANCE ALL THE NECESSARY TOOLS TO CLEAR SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS SUCH AS SNOW SHOVELS, SALT OR SAND, AND WINDSHIELD DEICER.
- CREATE AN EMERGENCY KIT. IN CASE THE POWER GOES OUT, OR YOU ARE UNABLE TO LEAVE YOUR HOME, PREPARE AN EMERGENCY KIT WITH ITEMS SUCH AS A BATTERY-POWERED RADIO, CELL PHONE CHARGING BRICK, FLASHLIGHTS, EXTRA BATTERIES, CANDLES, AND MATCHES.

