

DON'T FORGET TO...

- ▶ find the location of your mains water stop valve
- ▶ arrange for someone to have access to your property while you're away from home
- ▶ keep your home warm day and night during particularly cold weather
- ▶ keep this leaflet in a prominent position in your home in case you need to contact a SNIPEF Licensed Business in the event of a leak or burst pipe

**For complete peace of mind...
...use a SNIPEF Licensed Plumber**

YOUR LOCAL SNIPEF LICENSED BUSINESS IS:



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05/05



What to do if:

- ▶ YOU GET A BURST PIPE
- ▶ YOUR WATER SUPPLY BECOMES FROZEN
- ▶ YOU'RE LEAVING YOUR HOUSE EMPTY OVER WINTER

Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation



There are many ways that you can prevent cold weather from causing damage to your home and contents. This leaflet details some important measures you can take to avoid frost damage and what to do if you have a burst or frozen pipe.

KEEPING YOUR HOUSE WARM

Try and avoid burst or frozen pipes by keeping your home reasonably warm during the day and at night. In particularly cold weather keep the heating on during the night at a low temperature.

HEATING THE ROOF SPACE

In the event of very low temperatures it is a good idea to open the hatch to the roof space (if you have one). Although this may add slightly to your heating bills, it will give additional protection to your water tank and pipes in the roof space.

GOING ON HOLIDAY

If you leave your house empty for any period in winter, turn off your mains stop valve and contact a SNIPEF Licensed Plumbing Business to drain both the hot and cold water system. You should also ask your SNIPEF Licensed Business to check your heating system.

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delivering higher standards - improving customer care

IF YOUR WATER SUPPLY PIPE BECOMES FROZEN

- ▶ Turn off the water at the **mains stop valve** (this is generally located at the incoming supply pipe to your home, usually in the kitchen)
- ▶ Open all cold taps to drain the system and collect water in your bath for washing and WC flushing
- ▶ Do not open the hot taps as the hot water cylinder may collapse if the pipes feeding it are frozen
- ▶ Turn off the central heating and immersion heater and let any solid fuel fire die down
- ▶ Contact a SNIPEF Licensed Plumbing Business at the earliest opportunity

IF YOU GET A BURST PIPE

- ▶ Turn off the water at the **mains stop valve**
- ▶ Switch off the electricity at the mains
- ▶ Switch off any water heater
- ▶ Turn off the central heating system
- ▶ Let any solid fuel fire die down
- ▶ Open all taps to drain your system and collect water in your bath for washing and WC flushing
- ▶ Warn neighbours who may suffer damage
- ▶ Call a SNIPEF Licensed Plumbing Business as soon as possible