



## EAST COAST PETROLEUM

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## Prevent Winter FREEZE-UPS

**Simple steps to take to prevent broken pipes and water damage in your home due to freezing:**

On an **EXTREMELY** cold day

**Maintain higher** than normal temperatures (3-4 degrees)

Turn on your faucets and **let the water trickle** constantly

Open cabinet doors under the sink, allowing **heat to warm-up the pipes**

Insulate your pipes, it goes a long way toward **preventing** freeze-ups

Exterior faucets used for gardening hoses, should be **shut off from inside** the basement, and left open (even if you have freeze-proof sill cocks)

**If your house has hot water heat and may be unoccupied for awhile:**

Set the thermostat no lower than 60 degrees, and install a low heat alarm

Shut off the water at the water meter

Have a plumber install a **low water cut off switch** on forced hot air boiler

Heat tape the water meter and water service, unless the meter is plastic, if it is plastic, heat the meter and service area

Leave all faucets open and **fill heating system with anti-freeze**

If heated by oil, install a **low oil alarm**

Have the house checked once a week

**BEFORE THE COLD HITS:**

### **Additional TIPS**

Make sure the smallest hole or crack in the exterior siding is insulated and covered around water pipes that are on the inside of exterior walls

Check and replace washing machine **hoses** annually

Water heaters, safety valves and washing machines that are located above the first floor or in a finished basement, should have **drain pans**

**Know where** your water meter, and shut-off valves are located (check them twice a year to make sure they work properly)