

# The Water Source



PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NO. 3  
OF JOHNSON COUNTY

## PREPARING YOUR WATER PIPES FOR WINTER

### Extreme Weather Conditions:

- A trickle of hot and cold water might be all it takes to keep your pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall.
- Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature during both day and night.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.

### Before You Leave:

- Set the thermostat in your house no lower than 55°F (12°C).
- Ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to make sure it's warm enough to prevent freezing.
- Shut off and drain the water system. Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it may be deactivated when you shut off the water.

### What do you do if your pipes freeze?

- If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and call a plumber.
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame because it could cause a fire hazard.
- You may be able to thaw a frozen pipe with the warm air from a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe.
- If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house; leave the water faucets turned on.

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