

How to

WINTERIZE

Your Home



Helpful Tips to Winterize your Manufactured Home

It is important that homeowners take precautionary steps to prepare and protect their homes from the cold and freezing temperatures. There are some preparation and maintenance tips listed below that may be unique to a manufactured home.

- Check the underside of your home for any holes in the belly board. Be sure all heat registers are in working order and sealed. Replace any inoperative or damaged registers.
- Water lines should be protected by wrapping them first with an approved heat cable. Install the heat cable per the manufacturer's instructions, which may vary according to the type of water riser in place. At the beginning of cold weather, check to be sure heat tapes are plugged in and in good working condition. If you are planning on being away for an extended period, it is best to shut off water supply completely.
- Running or slow dripping faucets can cause sewer lines to freeze.
- Furnace filters should be installed and cleaned regularly (monthly) as air cannot pass through a dirty filter thereby increasing your monthly heating cost.
- Check for ice or snow buildup around your furnace or water heater roof caps. It is important to keep this area open to provide for proper operation.
- During periods of severe cold, leave cabinet doors and closet doors open at night and when you are away so that heat may circulate in these otherwise cold areas.
- Check to be sure heat tapes are plugged in and in good working condition.
- Vent the clothes dryer directly outside the home. Improper venting will contribute to major condensation problems in the home.
- Skirting should be installed per the builder's instructions, keeping in mind to allow adequate ventilation so that odor or condensation problems do not occur. Make sure all drain lines from the air conditioner, heat pump, etc drain to the outside of home skirting.
- Close all access points in skirting to keep rodents and other wild animals from living underneath your home.
- Adjust storm door closures for proper closing action and latch function to prevent excessive air infiltration.