

# Cold Weather Home Protection Checklist

## Before the Freeze (Preparation)

- ☐ Locate your main water shut-off valve and confirm how to turn it off
- ☐ Insulate exposed pipes (attic, garage, crawl spaces, exterior walls)
- ☐ Disconnect and drain all outdoor hoses
- ☐ Cover outdoor spigots with insulated covers
- ☐ Shut off exterior water lines if possible

## Irrigation & Backflow Systems

- ☐ Turn OFF irrigation controller
- ☐ Open Double Checks, RPZs, and irrigation valves to drain water
- ☐ Ensure no standing water remains in the system
- ☐ Review guides: [Winterizing your Backflow RPZ](#) / [Winterizing your Backflow DCA](#)

## Home Prep

- ☐ Seal drafts around doors and windows
- ☐ Close blinds or curtains at night to retain heat
- ☐ Keep garage doors closed if water lines run through garage
- ☐ Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- ☐ Prepare emergency kit (water, flashlights, batteries, non-perishable food)

## During the Freeze (Action)

- ☐ Set thermostat to 65°F or higher, even if away
- ☐ Drip both hot and cold faucets, especially on exterior walls
- ☐ Open kitchen and bathroom sink cabinets
- ☐ Run ceiling fans in reverse (clockwise)
- ☐ Use space heaters safely and never leave unattended

## If You're Leaving Town

- ☐ Leave heat on
- ☐ Shut off main water supply if gone for an extended period
- ☐ Ask a neighbor to check on your home during extreme cold

## If a Pipe Freezes

- ☐ Shut off main water supply immediately
- ☐ Thaw pipes slowly using warm, water-soaked towels
- ☐ Contact a licensed plumber if damage is suspected

A few preventative steps can help avoid costly repairs during a Texas freeze. Questions? The Kindred Homes team is here to help.