



FROZEN PIPES ADVICE

A cold spell can result in number of people experiencing the loss of water supply.

If you do not have water at your taps, usually it is a frozen service pipe or frozen pipes in the attic. Householders, landlords and owners of commercial properties are requested to check their property for frozen and leaking pipes.

To avoid frozen pipes;

- Protect pipes in your attic by leaving a light on in the attic or leaving the trap door open to allow some heat into the attic
- Leave the central heating on for longer than normal
- Locate your stopcock and place some insulation (piece of carpet or other material) over it. It can also help to park a car over the stopcock.
- If you have an outside tap, cover it with insulation or some material
- If the property is to be left unattended for any significant period of time shut off the water supply at the stopcock.

What if my pipes are frozen?

People should take care when attempting to thaw out any frozen pipes that it is done safely. Cloths soaked in hot water, fan heaters and hairdryers can be used but **never** use tools such as blow torches to thaw out pipes.

It may not be possible to thaw pipes while the freezing conditions continue. In the event that you are without water it may be possible to ask a neighbour who may still have a supply. If this is not possible you can contact Waterford City & County Council on **0761 10 20 20**.

Any individuals who are concerned about their heating systems should contact their own plumbers for advice.

Advice to Householders with Frozen Internal Pipes – water in kitchen in cold water tap but no water in other taps or cistern in house

- a) Switch off the water supply to property at the stop cock.
- b) Contact an independent plumber to check out the system
- c) Check in the attic and on ceilings for signs of a leak, if a leak is detected drain the attic tank by running the bath taps. Conserve water in the bath if possible.