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## *Winterizing Tips*



### *Prepare and Protect Your Home*

Every winter season mountain communities are at risk of the damage and expense from the stormy weather and frozen pipes. Just a few precautions can reduce these risks.

### *Clean out Your Rain Gutters*

As fall comes around leaves and debris can clog your rain gutters. By clearing this debris as winter comes around ensures a free flow of water. If clogged it increases the chance of water damage to your home. Also make sure they are correctly connected and the drain is away from getting to the foundation.

### *Water Pipes*

This is one of the most important precautions. As we hit winter snow will begin to fall which puts our water pipes at risk. By taking a few moments to ensure everything is correct you can protect your home from frozen water pipes.

- **Disconnect and Drain All Outdoor Hoses** – Detaching the hose(s) allows outdoor water faucets to drain.
- **Insulate Pipes or Faucets in Unheated Areas**- Before temperatures plummet wrap unheated pipelines in garage or crawl space underneath the home.
- **Find the Master Shutoff Valve**- Usually located where the water line comes into your house from the street. In case of a leak it is good to know the location of this.
- **Vacant Home? Make Sure to Turn off Your Water**- If you will be away from your mountain home this winter more than a day or two, the water should be turned off.

***Remember!! All water that passes through the meter is the homeowner's responsibility, even the water lost due to frozen or broken pipes.***