



**20 TIPS TO
PREPARE
YOUR
PLUMBING
FOR WINTER**





Think back to science class growing up. What happens to water when it freezes? Hydrogen bonds push the H₂O molecules further apart, increasing the intermolecular space. Or in other words – it expands. This maybe great for those ice cube trays in your freezer. But, ice forming in your plumbing system is a homeowner's worst nightmare.

Let's be honest, plumbing problems never occur when it's convenient. As the seasons change, the elements can't push your plumbing system to the brink. However, taking precautions now will put your mind at ease once the temperatures begin to drop.

In this checklist, we'll cover 20 important activities that'll prepare your home's plumbing for the Oklahoma winter ahead.

- 1** Perform an inspection before winter arrives
- 2** Keep the indoor thermostat above 55 degrees
- 3** Maintain the water heater at 120 degrees
- 4** Drain sediment from your water heater tank
- 5** Install frost-free sillcocks tank
- 6** Seal around rim joists

- 7 Apply heat tape or heating cables
- 8 Clear gutters and downspouts of leaves and debris
- 9 Close crawl space vents or openings
- 10 Disconnect outdoor water hoses
- 11 Check outdoor faucets for leaks or drips
- 12 Drain shut-off valves leading outdoors
- 13 Clean the sump pump and pit
- 14 Secure outdoor water meter cover
- 15 Insulate outdoor spigots
- 16 Cover hose bibs
- 17 Pick up an insulation kit for emergencies
- 18 Leave indoor faucets dripping
- 19 Open cabinet doors to improve circulation
- 20 Call BL3 for quick and easy repairs



A home is one of the most important investments you'll ever make.

When it comes to maintenance, it's important to hire a professional who's not only qualified but on-call when the occasion arises. Our team at BL3 is available 24/7 to tackle any issue you may have. For more information about our plumbing services, we invite you to reach out to one of our two locations!

North Oklahoma City: (405) 895-6640
South Oklahoma City: (405) 237-1414