

BURST PIPES – PREVENTATIVE STEPS

KEEP THE HOUSE WARM

- Always keep the house at a reasonable temperature and in very cold weather consider keeping your central heating on all the time.
- If you have a loft in your house, it is a good idea to open the hatch as this gives additional protection to your water tank and pipes in the roof space.

KNOW WHERE THE STOP-COCK IS

- Make sure that all the family knows where the stop-cock is located and that there is easy access to it in case of an emergency.

TURN OFF THE WATER

- Turn off the water and drain down the hot water cylinder if you are leaving the house for any length of time. (If you need advice on how to do this contact a suitable qualified contractor).

If you do have a burst pipe or any sign of flooding in your home:

- 1. Turn off the water at the stop-cock.***
- 2. Open all sink and bath taps***
- 3. Switch off the electricity at the mains***
- 4. Turn off the central heating systems and any water heaters***
- 5. If possible, collect water in the bath for washing and for flushing the toilet***
- 6. Call a plumber***
- 7. Warn any neighbours who might suffer damages (e.g. your downstairs neighbour if you are in an upper flat).***

If your pipes have frozen take the same steps but only open the cold water taps.