



Revitalize
Community Development Corporation

Colonial Block Building
1145 Main Street, Suite 107
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Tel: 413-788-0014
www.RevitalizeCDC.com

Winterize Your Home in a Few Easy Steps

Protecting your Pipes

Ensure that all of your homes water lines are properly protected from constant exposure to freezing temperatures.

- Wrap water lines with foam insulation
- If pipes are located in a non-insulated portion of the home, (such as attics or exterior water lines), protected pipes with heated cables.



Securing Exterior Irrigation Systems

Make sure to check and maintain any irrigation lines located outside of your home. This includes sprinklers and water spigots.

- Have your homes sprinkler system winterized at the end of the gardening season (late October).
- Turn off any water going to exterior water spigots. Most homes have shutoffs for these spigots located in the basement.



Reverse Your Fans

If your home has ceiling fans, most are equipped with a reverse function. When the fan is running normally (counterclockwise) it provides a cooling breeze into the room, but when reversed, air near the ceiling is recirculated back into the room, which helps to lower heating cost.





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Maintain Your Heating System

Be sure to regularly replace any filters associated with your heating system.

- By not replacing filters, the heating system has to work harder to create and supply heat to your home, which could lower the lifespan of the furnace and also raise your energy bills.



Insulating Your Ductwork

Depending on how your home is heated (i.e. steam, hot water, electric, forced hot air), you may have duct work running through your home. If you do, it would be best to have them properly insulated. Up to 30% of hot (or cooled) air is lost from ductwork that is not insulated. So by properly insulating your homes ductwork, you can greatly reduce your heating (and cooling) costs. Proper insulation around ductwork also better protects against dust and mold.



Protect Your Windows and Doors

If your home has older windows and doors, protecting them against the elements could greatly increase the warmth and efficiency of the home.

- Install storm windows over each window in the home, especially those you can feel a draft coming through. Install storm doors at each entry point to the home.
- If cost is of concern, plastic sheathing taped over each window could simulate the same effect as a storm window. Likewise, draft stopper installed beneath each door provides similar results.

