

## Tips on Protecting your Home from Ice and Bitter Cold

Written by Holly Anderson - State Farm  
Monday, 06 January 2014 09:32

---

- [Buy Cheap Lynda.com - Excel 2013 Power Shortcuts](#)
- [Buy Steinberg Cubase 5 \(en\)](#)
- [Buy OEM Adobe Acrobat XI Standard](#)
- [Discount - Adobe Photoshop Elements 10 MAC](#)
- [Buy Knoll Light Factory for Photoshop 3 MAC \(en\)](#)
- [Buy OEM CorelCAD 2014 MAC](#)
- [Buy Cheap FileMaker Bento 3 MAC](#)
- [Discount - Adobe Creative Suite 5.5 Design Premium](#)
- [Buy Cheap Microsoft Windows Server 2012 Foundation](#)
- [239.95\\$ Autodesk AutoCAD Mechanical 2009 cheap oem](#)
- [9.95\\$ Lynda.com - Create an Interactive Homepage Marquee with jQuery cheap oem](#)
- [Discount - Hacking Wireless Networks For Dummies](#)
- [Discount - Nikon Camera Control Pro 2 MAC](#)
- [Buy OEM Windows 7 For Seniors For Dummies](#)

Mother Nature has blasted the area with cold and snow and it's only going to get colder by Monday. State Farm is already receiving claims on Frozen Pipes but there is still time to prevent others from getting hit with damage. Below are facts and tips for prevention. The snow and cold can also bring Ice Dams to a home. An Ice Dam forms when the temperature in your attic is above freezing causing snow on the roof to melt and then refreeze in dropping temperatures. The pools of water behind those dams can cause leakage then into your home. See tips on how to prevent this below.

### Frozen Pipes:

- One-eighth-inch (3 millimeters) crack in a pipe can spray more than 250 gallons of water a day -- ruining floors, carpets, furniture and irreplaceable personal belongings.
- Pipes can freeze anywhere due to exposure from cracks or holes in siding or because of pipes being placed in outside walls with inadequate insulation.
- When it's especially cold where you live, let the hot and cold faucets drip overnight and open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes under sinks on exterior walls.
- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl space or attic.
- Seal leaks that allow cold air inside.
- Disconnect garden hoses and, if practical, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets.
- If you are going away for an extended period of time, be sure to maintain adequate heat inside your home....no lower than 55 degrees.

### Ice Dams:

- Prevent warm, moist downstairs air from infiltrating the attic by appropriately insulating your attic's floor and using a dehumidifier to control water vapor. Seal all openings that would

## Tips on Protecting your Home from Ice and Bitter Cold

Written by Holly Anderson - State Farm  
Monday, 06 January 2014 09:32

---

allow vapor to rise into the attic.

- Research shows keeping the attic air temperature below freezing when the outside air temperature is in the low 20s can reduce the occurrence of ice dams. Provide good attic ventilation to replace warm air in the attic with cold outside air. Consult a professional for the best way to avoid ice dams and water damage in your home.

- Do not routinely remove snow from the roof or attempt to “chip away” the ice of an ice dam. It will likely lead to shingle damage.

- Do not install large mechanical equipment or water heaters in attics, especially in cold climates. Not only do they present an unwelcome fire hazard, but they’ll also increase the temperature in your attic.

- Do not use salt or calcium chloride to melt snow on a roof. These chemicals are very corrosive and can shorten the life of metal gutters, downspouts, and flashings. Runoff that contains high concentrations of these chemicals can damage nearby grass and plants.

[After a Frozen Pipe Bursts](#) [Preparing Your Home for Freezing Temperatures](#) [Thawing Frozen Pipes and Preventing Water Damage](#)

[Ice Dams and Attic Condensation](#)

[Clear Your Roof of Snow](#)