Freeze

1. Insulate your pipes. Pipes that are exposed to freezing temperatures can freeze and burst. You can insulate your pipes with foam sleeves or wrap them with heat tape.

<img src="/img/Tips/Pipes.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Keep your home heated to at least 12° C even if you are away to help prevent pipes from freezing.

<br>

1. Seal gaps and cracks. Gaps and cracks in your walls and foundation can let in cold air, which can cause pipes to freeze and increase your heating bills. Use caulk or weatherstripping to seal gaps and cracks.

<img src="/img/Tips/SealGaps.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Open cabinet doors under sinks to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.

<br>

1. Let faucets drip slightly to relieve pressure and prevent pipes from freezing.

<br>

1. Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses, and cover outdoor faucets with insulated covers.

<img src="/img/Tips/DisconnectHose.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Clear gutters and downspouts of leaves and debris to prevent water from backing up and freezing.

<img src="/img/Tips/Gutters.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

Heat

1. Make sure your air conditioner is properly maintained and filters are cleaned or replaced regularly.

<img src="/img/Tips/AirConditioning.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Install blackout (thermal) blinds to keep excess heat and light out of the house.

<img src="/img/Tips/BlackoutBlinds.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Insulate walls and attics, sealing air leaks, and install energy-efficient windows.

<img src="/img/Tips/Insulate.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Use light-colored or reflective roofing materials to reduce the amount of heat absorbed by your roof.

<img src="/img/Tips/ReflectiveRoof.png" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Plant trees or install shade sails to provide shade to your home and reduce heat from the sun.

<img src="/img/Tips/Shade.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

Rain

1. Clean gutters and downspouts of leaves and debris to ensure that rainwater can flow freely away from your home.

<img src="/img/Tips/Gutters.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Inspect your roof and windows for leaks, and seal any gaps or cracks to prevent water from entering your home.

<img src="/img/Tips/WindowLeak.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. If you have basement windows, install window well covers to keep rainwater and debris from accumulating and potentially flooding your basement.

<img src="/img/Tips/WindowWellCover.png" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Make sure the ground slopes away from your foundation to prevent water from pooling and potentially seeping into your basement.

<img src="/img/Tips/Grade.png" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Direct downspouts away from your foundation and extend them at least five feet away from your home.

<img src="/img/Tips/SpoutAway.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Consider installing a rain garden. A rain garden can help absorb and filter rainwater, reducing the amount of runoff that can potentially damage your home.

<img src="/img/Tips/RainGarden.png" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

Wind

1. Inspect your roof for any loose or damaged shingles or tiles. Make repairs as needed to prevent them from becoming flying debris during strong winds.

<img src="/img/Tips/Shingle.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Secure outdoor furniture, toys, and other items that could become projectiles during strong winds. Bring them inside if possible or tie them down.

<img src="/img/Tips/SecureFurniture.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Trim trees of any overhanging branches or dead limbs that could fall on your home during strong winds.

<img src="/img/Tips/TrimTrees.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Reinforce your garage doors to prevent them from being blown in by strong winds.

<img src="/img/Tips/ReinforceGarageDoor.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Install impact-resistant windows and doors that can withstand high winds and flying debris.

<img src="/img/Tips/ReinforceWindows.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>

1. Strengthen your roof and walls with hurricane straps, clips, or bracing to improve their resistance to strong winds.

<img src="/img/Tips/ReinforceWalls.jpg" alt="tipImage" width="75%" height="120px" style="display: block; margin: auto; text-align: center;">

<br>