

# Be Winter Wise and Winterize

*Compliments of Kipcon Inc.*

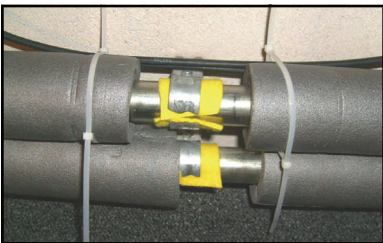
Baby its cold outside and if you haven't done it yet, it is time to winterize your home or building for the harsh weather ahead. Below are some easy ways to be winter wise and keep your energy costs down this season.



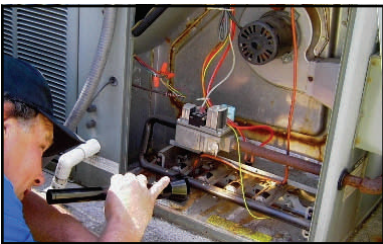
1. Add weather striping around doors and windows to plug air leaks. Seal all cracks and close crawl space vents to reduce heat loss.



2. Add insulation over existing insulation in attics. A minimum of twelve inches is recommended regardless of the climate conditions you live in to reduce heat loss.



3. Wrap non-insulated pipes with pre-molded foam rubber sleeves or fiberglass insulation. Pipes that aren't insulated, such as the ones running through garages, basements or crawl spaces, could burst when the temperature dips.



4. Inspect HVAC systems for safety and efficiency purposes. A professional should inspect your furnace, clean the ducts and change the filters annually.



5. Set thermostat with day and night time settings to reduce heat waste.



6. Review your property's reserve study or list of assets and plan ahead for future maintenance, repair or replacement projects. Preparing for spring-time projects in advance will help you get the lowest pricing and best scheduling available. For instance, get your pavement specifications and go out to bid this winter so that the project is ready to go come spring.

In addition to reducing energy costs, many of these green upgrades entitle the building/home owner to financial incentives. There are countless federal, state and utility rebates, incentives and tax credits available for a wide range of energy efficient upgrades. Energy Star Homes is a national organization that helps users to find appliance rebate programs, recycling rebates and energy efficient product discounts. Likewise, the Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency helps users find state rebates, grants, loans and tax exemptions.

**One way or the other, Kipcon hopes these winterization tips will keep Jack Frost at bay.**

