

Tips to Safeguard Your Home from Bad Weather

We are experiencing more and more bad weather here in Ireland. Freezing weather and rain and storms can damage your home. However, you can take a few simple steps to protect your home.

Protecting your Home From Freezing Conditions

- ❑ Keep your home well heated to avoid burst pipes. If you are away, leave the heating on low.
- ❑ Protect pipes from bursting by insulating exposed pipes and tanks.
- ❑ In the event of a pipe bursting, turn off the mains water supply. Make sure you know where the water mains supply valve is located.
- ❑ Make sure that all overflow pipes, on water cisterns for instance, are adequate and can discharge freely to the drain system.
- ❑ Open the attic door to let heat circulate if you are away from home.

Protecting your Home From Flooding

- ❑ Check your roof at regular intervals for any damaged or missing slates.
- ❑ Keep all gutters clean as water can get under the eaves of your home and damage timber.
- ❑ Make sure your drain pipes - in the event of a storm or a flood, water should be able to flow away quickly.
- ❑ If your home is likely to be flooded, you can take the following measures: (provided it is safe to do so).
 - ❑ Unplug all electrical appliances and turn off electrical power.
 - ❑ Move possessions upstairs or stack them safely.
 - ❑ Place sandbags at doors.
 - ❑ Turn off water supplies at the mains.