

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

## CONSTRUCTION SAFETY

### *COLD AND CONSTRUCTION*



#### **How Weather can Affect Your Structure**

- When temperatures fall below freezing, care and caution should be taken regarding plumbing, heating and falling ice.
- Since water expands upon freezing, if water in pipes freeze the potential for a water break is increased.
  - Keep cabinets open to allow warm air to keep pipes at ambient temperature
  - Keep the taps open slightly to keep water flowing during freezing temps
- Hot water can actually freeze faster than cold water.
  - It can be advisable to keep hot water taps open to allow a slow trickle from the tap
- In buildings with fire sprinkler systems, pipes may freeze in areas of buildings, like entryways, that have inadequate heating systems.
  - If possible, increase ambient heat in these areas.
- Snow and ice can build up on roofs and pose a hazard by falling on those below.
  - Watch for icicles and any snow on sloped roofs and avoid walking too closely to the building.
  - Signs may be posted indicating dangers from falling ice.



*An example of frozen and leaking water pipes*



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