

Hainesville Village News



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Frozen pipes are a serious concern this winter. The village has already experienced a few single family homes with burst pipes.

Pipes freeze due to quick drops in temperature, poor insulation and thermostats set too low. Both plastic and copper pipes can freeze and burst, and a cracked pipe can cause flooding, structural damage and mold. When pipes freeze, water in the pipes turns to ice and expands. The pressure causes cracks, and even one tiny crack can leak 250 gallons or more in a day. Rapid thawing of a frozen pipe can also cause it to burst. See tips below:

- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe – even at a trickle – helps prevent pipes from freezing.
- Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
- When going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temp no lower than 55° F.
- Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing



Welcome Home U.S. Army Specialist, Scott Hein, our Hainesville Hero!

The Round Lake Area Exchange Club, and sponsor Round Lake Area Park District, named U.S. Army Specialist, Scott Hein, as the December hometown hero. He is a Hainesville resident and a 2009 graduate of Grayslake Central High School. He was registered for this honor by Mayor Linda Soto. He recently completed a deployment in Afghanistan. Hein has been awarded a Combat Action Badge, the Army Commendation Medal and other awards during his four years of service. He is a combat engineer and will soon complete his service in Bamberg, Germany.

Scott arrived home for the holidays Saturday, December 21st. His parents and brother met him at O'Hare airport and then stopped at the Lake Forest Oasis on the way back to Hainesville. Unknown to Scott the Illinois Warrior Watch was waiting there to greet him and escort him the rest of the way home along with Mayor Linda Soto, Public Works Superintendent, Jeff Gately and crew. When arriving on the outskirts of Grayslake six squad cars and Fire trucks joined the procession. Teachers and staff from Grayslake Central were waiting along with local residents to greet Scott as he arrived at his parent's house in Misty Hill.



The recent Holiday Mixer held on December 7th featured amazing music from the Grayslake North Jazz Combo, Grayslake Central Choir and the Grayslake Central Jazz Combo! Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with many children. A fund raising drawing was held offering three gourmet food gift baskets; the winners were Todd Stickney, Tricia McNiece and Jenise Dodds. Also offered were two inflatable chairs with ottomans; the winners were Earl Jamora and Mason Ayala. All proceeds went to B.E.S.T., (Bringing Everyone's Strengths Together) organization. Thank you to those who also donated socks for PADS, a homeless shelter in Lake County!



Cold Weather Safety Tips

Make Sure Smoke Alarms and CO Alarms are Working

This will give you the earliest possible warning that something is wrong so you can escape safely.

Loss of Power

Consider going to the home of a friend or relative who has heat rather than relying on alternative heating sources.

Space Heaters

Space heaters need space, so use them in a 3-foot circle of safety; free of anything that catches fire. Space heaters are not designed to replace your central heating system; they are only designed to provide a little extra heat on a temporary basis. So be sure to turn them off when you leave the room or go to bed at night. Overloaded extension cords cause many space heater fires. It is best not to use extension cords with heat producing appliances, but if you must, make sure it is rated for the same wattage as the appliance and use only one.

Wood, Coal and Pellet Stoves

Many serious fires start from the improper disposal of ashes from fireplaces, wood and pellet stoves. A single ember can remain hot for days, so put ashes in a metal container with a lid away from the house, the garage and the deck. Don't overload your woodstove; an overtaxed woodstove can easily start a chimney fire.

Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning is a great risk at times like these. Using propane or charcoal grills or generators inside the garage – even with the door open – poses a serious risk of CO poisoning. Never use a gas oven for heat.

Generator Safety

Use generators outdoors away from windows, doors and vents with the exhaust pointed away from the home. Don't use them inside the garage, basement or partially enclosed areas no matter how well ventilated. Never plug a generator into a wall outlet. This practice known as "backfeeding" can cause an electrocution risk to utility workers and others served by the same transformer. Plug appliances directly into the generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord. Make sure the entire cord is free of cuts or tears and the plug has all three prongs including the grounding pin. Gasoline for generators should be stored outside the home in small quantities in approved containers. Remember to allow equipment to cool before refueling to prevent vapors from igniting.

Clear Snow from Furnace and Dryer Vents

Keep outside furnace, hot water and dryer vents clear of drifting snow, to prevent flue gases from backing up into the home and creating a carbon monoxide hazard.

Clear Snow from Vehicle Tailpipes

Carbon monoxide can build up inside a running vehicle where the tailpipe was clogged with snow.

Safety Supplies When Travelling by Automobile

If you are traveling by car, make up a travel safety bag in case of an emergency. This should include water, power bars, extra clothing, hat and gloves, warm boots, old blankets for warmth, hand warmers, rock salt and a shovel.

Use Flashlights and Battery-Operated Candles

Use flashlights and battery-operated candles for safety. If you must use flame candles, remember to burn them inside a one-foot circle of safety, free of anything that can burn. Place them on a non-combustible surface or in the sink; blow them out when you leave the room or go to bed; and use jar candles or place a globe over stick candles. Keep pets and children away from candles.

Consider going to a Shelter to Charge up Cell Phones for Emergency Calls

You may lose the ability to make emergency calls when cell phone batteries and the battery-backup for fiber optic telephone/cable/Internet services become depleted. If you are without lights and heat consider staying with friends or family who have power or go to an emergency shelter for a short while, even if it's just to charge up cell phones, get a hot meal and warm up.