SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo Raises Awareness of Winter Property Damage Risks and Restoration Options

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KALAMAZOO, MI - October 28, 2025 -
SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo today draws attention to the potential for property damage during the winter months, particularly from frozen pipes and heating system failures. As temperatures drop in Michigan, property owners face increased risks of water damage from burst pipes and fire damage from heating equipment. This initiative underscores the need for preventive measures and prompt restoration to minimize long-term impacts on homes and businesses.

Frozen pipes represent a significant concern in colder climates. When water inside pipes freezes, it expands and can cause pipes to crack or burst, leading to flooding and extensive water damage. According to the Michigan Committee for Severe Weather Awareness, an estimated quarter-million homes experience damage each winter due to frozen water pipes. An eighth-inch crack in a pipe can release up to 250 gallons of water per day, affecting walls, floors, and personal belongings. Property owners can take steps to prevent such issues, including insulating pipes in unheated areas, allowing faucets to drip during extreme cold, and maintaining consistent indoor temperatures. If damage occurs, professional intervention helps address water extraction, drying, and repairs to prevent secondary problems like mold growth.

Heating systems also pose risks during winter. Improper use or maintenance of furnaces, space heaters, and fireplaces can lead to fires, resulting in smoke and soot damage throughout a property. Such incidents not only destroy structures but also leave behind odors and residues that require specialized cleaning. SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo handles fire damage restoration by assessing the extent of the damage, removing debris, and cleaning affected areas with appropriate techniques to restore safety and habitability.

Mold remediation forms another critical aspect of post-damage recovery, often stemming from unresolved water issues. Mold can spread within 72 hours in moist environments, posing health risks and further degrading materials. The remediation process involves emergency contact, inspection, containment, air filtration, removal of infested materials, cleaning, and final restoration. Antifungal treatments are applied, and porous items like drywall may need replacement. This comprehensive approach ensures that underlying moisture sources are addressed to prevent recurrence.

In addition to restoration, cleaning services play a vital role in maintaining property conditions year-round. Carpet cleaning, for instance, removes dirt and allergens, while general cleaning covers homes and offices. Odor removal addresses persistent smells from various sources, including smoke or pets. These services are performed by trained technicians using industry-standard equipment.

As a provider of restoration and cleaning services near Kalamazoo, MI, SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo operates with 24/7 availability to respond to emergencies. The company's technicians hold IICRC certifications and undergo regular training to handle diverse scenarios. Backed by a nationwide network, the franchise can scale resources for large-scale disasters, ensuring efficient service delivery.

"Property owners should inspect their plumbing and heating systems before winter sets in to avoid costly damages," said Dean M. Dingman, owner of SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo. "Quick action in the event of a burst pipe or fire can significantly reduce restoration time and expenses."

Echoing this sentiment, Eric D. Chesser, owner of SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo, added, "Our team's expertise in mold remediation and cleaning ensures that properties are returned to pre-damage conditions, helping communities recover effectively from seasonal challenges."

The emphasis on winter preparedness aligns with broader industry efforts to educate the public on disaster mitigation. By highlighting these risks, SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo aims to equip residents and business owners with knowledge to protect their investments. Regular maintenance, such as cleaning gutters to prevent ice dams and testing smoke detectors, contributes to overall safety.

SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo also addresses commercial needs, offering restoration for businesses to minimize downtime. From water extraction using pumps and vacuums to soot removal with dry and wet cleaning methods, the processes are tailored to specific damage types. This expertise extends to specialized tasks, such as document drying and electronics restoration, preserving valuable assets.

Founded in 1967, SERVPRO has grown into a network of franchises specializing in cleanup and restoration. SERVPRO of Portage and Kalamazoo serves local communities including Kalamazoo, Portage, Vicksburg, and surrounding areas in Michigan. The company focuses on residential and commercial properties, employing trained professionals to manage fire, water, and mold incidents. With a commitment to quality, the franchise maintains high standards through ongoing education and certification programs.

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SERVPRO of East Kalamazoo specializes in water and fire damage cleanup and restoration but did you know they are one of the leaders in commercial and residential carpet cleaning

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