



FROZEN PIPE PREVENTION TIPS

Being prepared and informed may help you to avoid the messy and often expensive issue of frozen pipes. Winter is here and so is the risk of frozen pipes. As soon as thermometers drop into the freezing zone, the following tips will help you avoid unpleasant surprises that may come from broken water pipes on your property.

Winters can be harsh on household plumbing so don't forget to protect the water meter and pipes from freezing temperatures. Those located on outside walls, in basements, or in crawl spaces, are particularly vulnerable to the cold. They can easily freeze and break during cold spells and lead to costly repairs. Please follow these important steps to help prevent expensive problems later. Property owners may be encouraged to run water constantly from time to time.

Start Outdoors

- * Disconnect & drain the garden hose. This will help prevent outside faucets & pipes from freezing, leaking or breaking.
- * Close outside vents, crawl spaces, & doors so cold air doesn't seep inside.
- * Repair broken windows & seal cracks in the walls.

Insulate, Insulate, Insulate

- * Wrap water lines & meters in commercial insulation.
- * Wrap pipes subject to cold or freezing in heat tape available from hardware stores. It must be plugged in all winter.
- * Locate shut-off valves. Make sure the valves on either side of the water meter are working properly. Place a tag on the main shut-off valve. Make sure everyone in the house knows where it is & how to operate it in an emergency.

Check The Heat

- * If frozen lines are suspected, the property owner must contact the City, and City staff must visit the property to confirm that the water at the property is coming out of the faucet at, or below 39 degrees Fahrenheit.
- * City staff will charge the resident for water and sewer usage by taking the average calculated from previous months for the residents' account, and then forgive charges for up to 10,000 gallons above that amount. Any amount above 10,000 gallons plus the previous average usage will be charged at a normal rate.
- * If you're going away, keep a minimum amount of heat on in the house. This will help protect the pipes in case the temp drops.

More Tips For Freezing Weather

- * Check the meter periodically to see if there is damage and contact the City if you detect a crack.
- * If a sink is located against an outside wall, open the cabinet doors overnight to allow warm air to reach water pipes.
- * If you have had problems with frozen pipes in the past, keep a trickle of water running from the highest faucet in your house. During extremely cold periods, this trickle should be the size of a pencil point. This procedure may help prevent more costly plumbing repairs resulting from broken pipes.

Winter Checklist in the City of Winsted:

TRASH AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS: On collection day, set rubbish and recycling containers out by 7 a.m. and place the containers behind the curb line rather than in the street where plows can hit them.

HYDRANTS: Please consider "adopting" a fire hydrant by keeping a path shoveled to the hydrant so they can be easily -- and more important, quickly -- accessed by the Fire Department in the event of an emergency at your home or in your neighborhood.

MAILBOXES: To ensure mail delivery, please clear snow away from the front of your mailbox.

STREETS & ROADWAYS: Winsted's winter parking restrictions are in place from November 1st until March 31st. During this time, vehicles need to be off all City streets between 2 a.m. & 6 a.m. each day so snow plows can properly clear the roadways.

OTHER REMINDERS: Children are attracted to mounds of snow, but please keep them from the areas along streets or in the middle of cul-de-sacs where vehicles frequent and visibility could be impaired. Consider assisting elderly or physically challenged neighbors with snow removal.



REMINDERS FOR DOG OWNERS

A LICENSE IS REQUIRED. Dogs must be licensed each calendar year in the City of Winsted. 2018 licenses will be available the last week of December. Please remember that a rabies vaccination certificate is required to obtain a license for your pet.

RUNNING AT LARGE IS PROHIBITED. Dog owners are required to keep a dog on a leash and accompanied by a responsible person at all times when it is not on the owner's property.

CLEANING UP LITTER. The owner of any animal or person having the custody or control of any animal shall be responsible for cleaning up any feces of the animal and disposing of such feces in a sanitary manner, whether on their own property, on the property of others, or on public property.

Any person who violates this ordinance may receive a citation, and the dog may be impounded.

Thank you for your cooperation!



FRIENDS IN THE KITCHEN will be offered Thursday, Dec. 13 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Winsted.

The free classes are 1.5 hours long and teach 3 recipes. Participants are provided recipe packets, shopping tips, and suggestions for preparing simple entrees, sides, or snacks. Ongoing monthly cooking classes teach eating healthy on a tight budget to those over 55.

The class meets the second Thursday of each month.



Christmas Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, WINSTED

HORS D'OEUVRES 6:00 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M.
HOLIDAY CONCERT 7:30 P.M.
FEATURING ALLAN & MATT CARLSON

Free Will Donation