



City of Burnsville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID FROZEN WATER LINES

Just because the weather is (finally) warming, doesn't mean that frozen pipes are a thing of the wintery past. On the contrary, spring typically results in the most frozen and broken lines due to the freeze/thaw cycle of the ground – and snowbirds returning home and turning water back on for the first time in months.

To help prevent pipes from freezing, Burnsville's Public Works Department offers the following tips:

- Purchase a low cost thermometer and keep it by the sink. If the temperature of your cold water falls below 38 degrees, you may be on the verge of freezing.
- If the water temperature is below 38 degrees, consider turning on a cold water tap on the lowest level of your home. Run a steady ¼-inch stream of water (or the diameter of a #2 pencil) 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week (until air temperatures reach 40 degrees for several days in a row). This will help keep water from freezing in your pipes.

Please note that the City will not pay to thaw private systems, or provide a discount for water used to run through pipes. All water going through the meter will be billed.

- Leave the cupboard doors open under your kitchen and bathroom sinks.
- Do not turn your furnace below 55 degrees.
- Shut off and drain pipes leading to outside faucets.
- Wrap foam insulation around pipes most susceptible to freezing.
- Seal air leaks in your home and garage.
- If you are away, have someone check your home regularly.
- If you think you may have a frozen water line, contact the City of Burnsville at 952-895-4552 to assist in coordinating a contractor to thaw the service line.

While some homes provide signs (leaking water, low pressure, etc.) that a line is freezing – many unfortunately do not. If someone else in your neighborhood has a frozen line, there is a chance your home could be next, as many of the water services are buried at the same depth in neighborhoods. Please take precautions.

For more information contact the 952-895-4552 or visit www.burnsville.org/water.