

Freezing Weather Water Tips

Winter has finally arrived in Texas and with that, the Town would like to share some advice to help your pipes in the event of freezing weather. While busted pipes cannot always be avoided during the colder months, here are some tips that can help you prevent them:

- Cover vents around the foundation of your home
- Insulate outside faucets with Styrofoam cover, rags or paper
- Remove garden hoses from outside faucets
- Wrap any pipes that are exposed outside or in a colder part of your home
- Every adult in your home should know where your shut-off valve is located and how to operate it, in case of a broken pipe. Apply an oil, such as WD-40, to the cut-off valve before operating to prevent the valve from breaking.
- Inspect or have your Fire Sprinkler System inspected annually to prevent broken pipes. Learn more about this in the Town's <u>December 2016 Town News Magazine</u>.
- During a freeze, drip outside faucets 24 hours a day with approximately 5 drops per minute. This is necessary when temperatures are expected to be 28 degrees or below for at least 4 hours
- Open cabinet doors under sinks adjacent to outside walls
- If your garage is unheated, shut off the water to your washing machine
- During sustained sub-freezing weather, let water drip slowly from inside faucets
- If you are traveling and your house will be unoccupied for several days, shut water off at the property owner's cut-off valve and drain all outside water faucets

If a water line breaks and the cut off valve does not work or you are unable to locate or operate the valve, call the Town's After Hours Water Emergency Line at <u>972-886-4229</u> or Town Hall at 972-562-0522 dial 4.

During normal business hours, you can reach the Utility Billing Desk at 972-886-4242 for assistance.