

Winter Preparation

With winter on its way, now is the time to prepare for the impending ice, snow and freezing temperatures. Historically, the winter season results in an increase of property damage and a higher frequency of broken water pipes.

Our goal is to help you ensure that the appropriate preventative measures are in place to protect your home and the District water supply. The following is a partial checklist of some preparatory and maintenance measures you can take to prepare your home for the impending weather conditions:



Home Winterization

- Ensure water and/or drainpipes are well insulated. Make sure ends join tightly and joints are wrapped and taped. Cables or tapes that heat pipes should be professionally installed.
- Inspect your home regularly, including unoccupied spaces.
- Make certain unoccupied or vacant homes receive adequate heating to keep pipes from freezing.
- Check that crawl spaces, roof hatches and attic accesses are all closed and properly insulated.
- Identify water shutoff valves and make sure family and/or neighbors are aware of their locations, in the event of an emergency.
- Inspect gutters and down spouts, checking for any leaking connections, excess debris, or obstructed flows. Also check that the water drains away from your home.
- When freezing temperatures hit leave cupboards open with a small amount of water dripping from your faucets to help prevent frozen and possibly broken water lines.

For those customers that vacate their homes in the winter the District can shut your water off until you return. The fee for shut off is \$25, this could prevent costly repairs of broken pipes due to cold weather. If you choose to leave your water on, we recommend installing a whole house shut off that you can shut off during long periods of absence or winterizing your home and leaving the heat turned on at a minimum of 68 degrees to help prevent freezing pipes. In the event you have a broken water line and the District finds it, or is notified of it, your water will be shut off and repairs will have to be made prior to return service. Broken pipes can be costly to homeowners and the District water supply if left unattended for too long. We ask that you take precautions to lessen the risk of broken pipes and preserve the District water supply during these cold winter months.