
TIDEWATER UTILITIES INC. REMINDS CUSTOMERS TO PREPARE NOW TO PROTECT PIPES FROM FREEZING

DOVER, DE (January 28, 2019) - As colder temperatures approach, Tidewater Utilities, Inc. is reminding homeowners to take steps now to protect their pipes from freezing. Burst pipes can also occur when frozen water causes a pressure build-up between the ice blockage and the closed faucet. Here are steps customers can take:

- Insulate exposed pipes by fitting them with insulation sleeves or wrapping to slow heat transfer. Pipes in unheated areas like attics, crawl spaces, garages and outside walls are particularly vulnerable to extreme cold.
- Eliminate drafts by sealing off cracks in walls and foundations near water pipes and repairing broken or cracked basement windows and doors.
- Owners of manufactured homes should inspect skirting to ensure there are no holes or gaps that would allow cold air to blow under the home.
- Shut off and drain all outside faucets and store away garden hoses for winter.
- For rooms against outside walls, open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to remove harmful chemicals from the reach of children and pets.
- In severe cold, keep a slow trickle of water flowing through faucets connected to pipes that run through an unheated or unprotected space. To conserve water, this measure should only be done when temperatures severely drop for an extended period of time and only under homeowner supervision.

In the case that a pipe breaks, the water to the house should be shut off immediately to prevent water damage. Make sure all family members know where the water shut-off valve is and how to operate it in the event of an emergency.

Tidewater, a subsidiary of [Middlesex Water Company \(NASDAQ: MSEX\)](#), provides a wide range of water and wastewater services including consulting, contract operations and maintenance, and bulk water supply. For more information about Tidewater, visit www.tuiwater.com

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