

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY REMINDS CUSTOMERS TO ACT NOW TO PREVENT PIPES FROM FREEZING THIS WINTER

ISELIN, NJ November 21, 2016 -- Freezing weather can take its toll on pipes in and around your home. Most water meters and pipes can be found in basements, crawl spaces and other unheated areas, where cold winter temperatures can cause them to freeze. As temperatures begin to drop, Middlesex Water Company is reminding customers to take preventive measures before winter sets in – to protect water lines which can freeze, expand and possibly burst, causing flooding and thousands of dollars in water damage to your home or business.

Prepare for Freezing Temps:

- Turn off the water to outside faucets.
- Disconnect, drain and store outdoor hoses.
- Repair cracked or broken windows.
- Seal cracks or holes in exterior walls.
- Insulate pipes in unheated areas, exterior walls, crawl spaces and attics.
- Seal off access doors, air vents and cracks.
- Identify and tag your main shut-off valve, so you can find it in a water emergency.

If a Pipe Freezes:

Completely open the cold water faucet nearest the frozen pipe. This releases the pressure and reduces the chance of pipe breakage. Should you decide to thaw the pipe yourself, use a hand held blow-dryer. If you are uncertain what to do, call a licensed plumber.

By taking preventive measures before cold weather arrives, you can prevent freezing pipes and the potential inconvenience and costly damage that goes with them.

Middlesex Water Company, organized in 1897, provides regulated and unregulated water and wastewater utility services in New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania through various subsidiary companies. For additional information regarding Middlesex Water Company visit <u>www.middlesexwater.com</u> or call (732) 634-1500.

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