



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY OFFERS TIPS  
AGAINST FROZEN WATER METERS AND PIPES**

ISELIN, NJ, January 15, 2009—Middlesex Water Company is reminding customers to protect their homes from frozen water meters and pipes that could interrupt their water service. Harsh winter weather can wreak havoc on your plumbing; but homeowners can prevent thousands of dollars in property damage by protecting their pipes from freezing. When the water in the meter or pipes freezes, it expands and that slight expansion can crack pipes and also break your water meter. By following some simple tips, homeowners can safeguard against the damage bitter cold can cause and avoid expensive repairs or replacements to meters, pipes and service lines.

- Make sure your water meter is protected from freezing conditions. If your meter is located outdoors or in an unheated garage, take extra care to make sure the meter is insulated; check with your local plumbing service supplier about insulating materials.
- Remove water hoses from outside connections. Turn off water to outdoor faucets, and when possible, drain the pipes.
- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces and attic. These exposed pipes are most susceptible to freezing. Remember - the more insulation you use, the better protected your pipes will be.
- Repair broken or cracked windows and walls in the basement to further safeguard against freezing. Pipes that run against exterior walls that have little or no insulation are also subject to freezing.
- Insulate pipes located in or near outside walls. If a sink is installed against an outside wall, insulate the wall; open cabinets beneath the sink to allow heat to reach un-insulated pipes. In doing so, take proper precaution that any harmful items are out of reach of children and pets.
- When the weather is very cold outside, let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes. Running water through the pipe - even at a trickle - helps prevent pipes from freezing because the temperature of the water running through it is above freezing.

Middlesex Water Company, organized in 1897, is a water utility serving customers in central and southern New Jersey and in the State of Delaware. For additional information regarding Middlesex Water Company, visit the Company's web site at [www.middlesexwater.com](http://www.middlesexwater.com) or call (732) 634-1500.

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