

ARE YOU READY FOR ANOTHER WINTER STORM?

Last month's storms are a reminder that winter has arrived. While these memories are fresh, FIMWA would like to provide you with some basic information to help you protect your water system during these winter months.

Protect your home water system by doing these simple tasks:

- ✓ Disconnect and drain all hoses from faucets. Even a "freeze-proof" outdoor faucet cannot withstand having a frozen hose connected to it.
- ✓ Place insulated covers on all outside faucets and all other faucets in unheated areas (found at hardware stores).
- ✓ Insulate all exposed plumbing, including exposed pipes in your yard. This is **SO** important!!!
- ✓ Find your home's water shut-off. Make sure it is accessible. Show other adult family members where this shut-off is and show them how to shut it off. If you are going on a trip, also show a neighbor where your shut-off is.
- ✓ Locate your water meter box. Remove any dirt that may be inside this box due to moles, other critters, or gardening activities. Make certain the lid is securely in place on the meter box.
- ✓ Water problems that happen between a water meter and a home are the responsibility of the property owner. Protection is the best prevention.



Important information about subfreezing conditions:

1. As water freezes in a pipe, it expands, often forcing the pipe's walls to break. After a thaw, a broken pipe leaks.
2. Frozen pipes cause water to stop flowing. If you have a frozen pipe, use a hair dryer to thaw it.
3. During subfreezing conditions let a **small** amount of water drip from an indoor faucet. This keeps the water moving and reduces the chances of it freezing in your pipes. This is very important during a power outage.

Additional Information:

FIMWA, your community-owned water system, strives to provide continued water service during storms and power outages. Most emergency electrical outages will not affect your water service because the majority of our water system is gravity fed. The exception to this is a small area at the northern end of the island. A generator supplies emergency power to pumps that service that area during electrical outages.

Remember: We are unable to receive calls when phones are out of service. Also, our one full-time employee is extremely busy when water service is interrupted. Please have patience during this time. Thank you.

It's not too late to prepare for more winter weather!