



93 West Main Street  
Clinton, CT 06413

## NEWS

**Contact** Daniel J. Meaney, APR  
Director of Corporate Communications  
Connecticut Water Company  
860-664-6016  
DMeaney@CTWater.com

### For Immediate Release

## Connecticut Water Issues Frozen Pipe Alert for Sunday and Monday

Near zero temperatures and gusty winds could freeze pipes

### 7 Tips to Prevent Frigid Weather From Freezing Water Pipes

**CLINTON, Conn., — Jan. 18, 2019** — Near zero temperatures and gusty winds are in the forecast for Sunday and Monday, and homeowners are encouraged to take a few simple steps to prevent damage caused by freezing of water pipes inside and outside the home.

Pipes bringing water in from a public water system or a private well, and water meters, are usually located near exterior walls and are vulnerable to freezing during extreme cold and windy conditions. When water inside a pipe or water meter freezes it can restrict or completely block the flow of water to the rest of the home, damage pipes and the meter, and flood basements when the ice thaws and water gushes in through split pipes and meters.

Property owners are responsible for the maintenance of the water service line from the curb to the house, as well as for any in-home piping, including meter repair costs. We encourage customers and private well owners to take the following precautions to reduce the chances that pipes will freeze or burst and water meters will be damaged.

- **Know What Areas of Your Home Are Most Vulnerable to Freezing** — Basements, crawl spaces, unheated rooms and outside walls are at higher risk of having temperatures affect pipes.
- **Eliminate Sources of Cold Air Near Water Lines** — Allow room heat to freely circulate around these areas. Seal cracks or holes in windows, walls or doors near the meter or pipes.
- **Know the Location of Your Main Water Shut-off Valve** — If a pipe freezes or bursts, you will want to know where to go in order to shut off the water immediately.
- **Protect Your Pipes and Water Meter** — Wrap exposed pipes with insulation or use electrical heat tracing wire; newspaper or fabric will also work. For outside meters, keep the lid to the meter pit closed tightly and let any snow remain on the cover. The snow acts as insulation.
- **If you have pipes that are vulnerable to freezing**, allow a small trickle of water to run overnight to

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keep them from freezing. The cost of extra water is low compared with the cost of repairing a broken pipe.

- **Expose pipes to warmer room temperatures** by letting warm air freely circulate in the area. Set up a small space heater for pipes that are more likely to freeze.
- **Check for cracks in the vault cover of outside meter installations** — A cracked cover permits cold air to enter and all insulation value to be lost. The double cover is then unable to protect against freezing.

Connecticut Water has prepared a fact sheet that includes these tips and additional information on what to do if a homeowner's water pipes or water meter does freeze. The fact sheet is called [Winterizing Tips](#), and it can be downloaded at [www.ctwater.com](http://www.ctwater.com) > Customers > Bill Inserts and Fact Sheets. It can also be requested by calling our toll-free customer service number: 800-286-5700.

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**About Connecticut Water Company:**

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