



PRESS RELEASE

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TASKE STEPS TO AVOID FROZEN WATER LINES

Sandusky – With the tremendous cold slamming our city this winter, the Department of Public Works is advising residents and business owners to take the following steps to help avoid frozen water lines.

- 1) **Be Prepared** - Find the master water shut-off valve in your house. It may be located near the water heater, washing machine or where the water service pipe enters the house. If a pipe bursts anywhere in the house, this valve will turn-off the water flow.
- 2) **Keep Pipes Warm** - Maintain heat at 55 degrees minimum (including in basement). Insulate pipes located in cold areas by installing a pipe sleeve or heat tape and consider adding insulation to attics, basements and crawl spaces. In addition, open cabinets and other unheated areas where water supply lines are located.
- 3) **Take Extra Precautions** - During extreme cold, consider letting cold water trickle from the faucet. Running water through the pipe helps prevent pipes from freezing. While you will be responsible for the cost of consumption on your water bill, this preventative measure could help you save significantly on more costly plumbing repairs.
- 4) **Stay connected** - Keep emergency contact information readily available for private plumbers that you trust to work in your house. In addition, contact the City of Sandusky [7 a.m. – 4 p.m., 419.627.5895; or 4 p.m. – 7 a.m., 419.627.5900] if you notice a leaking or potentially frozen service line or water meter in your yard.