


Currents

Henry F. Vitale, Executive Director


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How to Prevent Pipes From Freezing!

Winter is here! It's important to take precautionary measures to keep your water pipes from freezing. Frozen pipes can burst at their weakest point. Here are a few ways to protect your home or business from the effects of freezing temperatures.

 **Protect Your Water Meter** from icy drafts and freezing temperatures. Most frozen meters are caused by drafts from an open basement door or window. Double-check your property as the cold weather sets in.



 **Allow a Slow Trickle of Water** to flow through faucets connected to water pipes that run through unheated spaces, especially during low temperatures.

 **If Your Pipes Freeze**, use a hair dryer to thaw lines. It may not be fast, but it will be safe. **NEVER USE AN OPEN FLAME TO THAW PIPES.**




When pipes are frozen, there is often water available in at least one faucet. If there is no water coming through any of your taps, the problem may be in the pipes in your yard or street.




Call BWSC's 24-hour
Emergency Assistance line at
617-989-7000


Freezing!




 **Keep Cabinet Doors Open** during cold spells to allow warm air to circulate around the pipes.



 **Insulate Pipes** in unheated spaces like basements, crawl spaces, and garages.

 **Locate the Main Water Shutoff Valve** in your home, and learn how to turn it off. If a water pipe bursts, shutting your home's main valve quickly will minimize the damage.



 **Seal Openings in the Basement Foundation** where cold air may enter. Block holes and check for open windows, air vents, and drafts near water pipes. A tiny opening may cause exposed pipes to freeze.

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Let's Protect Boston's Waterways

New Water & Sewer Rates

Effective January 1 Through December 31, 2017

Consumption (Cu. Ft./Day)	Water Rate		Sewer Rate	
	Per 1,000 Cubic Feet	Per 1,000 Gallons	Per 1,000 Cubic Feet	Per 1,000 Gallons
First 19	\$50.18	\$6.708	\$68.59	\$9.169
Next 20	\$52.52	\$7.022	\$70.70	\$9.451
Next 50	\$54.69	\$7.312	\$72.13	\$9.643
Next 260	\$58.15	\$7.774	\$76.09	\$10.173
Next 950	\$60.67	\$8.111	\$80.30	\$10.736
Over 1,299	\$62.80	\$8.396	\$83.07	\$11.105

The above rates reflect an approved 2.4% increase effective January 1, 2017.

Protect Your Neighborhood After It Snows

You can help protect your neighborhood after a snowstorm in two easy steps:

- 1 Shovel out fire hydrants so the fire department can access them quickly in an emergency.
- 2 Clear snow, ice, and debris from the tops of catch basins to prevent street flooding.



Not sure where the nearest hydrants and catch basins are? Boston Water and Sewer Commission's **Hydrant and Catch Basin Locator Map** can help you find them. Visit www.bwsc.org.

Neighborhood Site Locations

Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) will have a representative from the Community Services Department at neighborhood locations to offer assistance.



Brighton

Thursdays, 10 AM–12 PM
1/26–Allston/Brighton APAC
 143 Harvard Avenue
2/16–Allston Brighton Child & Family Service Center*
 400 Cambridge Street

Charlestown

Golden Age Center
 382 Main Street
 Tuesdays, 11 AM–1 PM
 1/31 and 2/8

Chinatown

CCBA
 90 Tyler Street
 Thursdays, 11 AM–1 PM
 1/19 and 2/9

Dorchester Uphams Corner Municipal Building

500 Columbia Road
 Fridays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/20 and 2/10

East Boston

East Boston APAC
 21 Meridian Street
 Wednesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
 1/11, 1/18 and 2/1, 2/8

Fields Corner

Kit Clark Senior Center
 1500 Dorchester Avenue
 Mondays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/23 and 2/27

Hyde Park

**Hyde Park
Municipal Building**
 1179 River Street
 Tuesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
 1/10, 1/24 and 2/7, 2/21

Jamaica Plain Curtis Hall Community Center

20 South Street
 Mondays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/9 and 2/6

Mattapan

Mattapan Public Library
 1350 Blue Hill Avenue
 Fridays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/13 and 2/3

North End

North End Public Library
 25 Parmenter Street
 Thursdays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/12 and 2/2

Roslindale

Greater Roslindale Medical & Dental Center
 4199 Washington Street
 Tuesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
 1/17 and 2/14

South Boston

South Boston APAC
 424 West Broadway
 Wednesdays, 10 AM–12 PM
 1/25 and 2/22

West Roxbury Roche Community Center

1716 Centre Street
 Fridays, 10 AM–1 PM
 1/27 and 2/24

South End & Roxbury

Residents of the South End and Roxbury are invited to use the BWSC Headquarters as their neighborhood site location.

Meet with BWSC staff to:

- Pay your water bill with a check or money order—no cash.
- Talk about any problems you may have with your bill or service.
- Find out how much water is being used on your property.
- Plan to make payments on bills that are past due.
- Receive help applying for a senior or disabled person's discount.
- Learn more about BWSC customer programs.



980 Harrison Avenue • Boston, MA 02119

Headquarters are open:
 Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM
 Wednesdays, 8 AM–7 PM

617-989-7000 www.bwsc.org



*Reflects a change in location as of February 16, 2017.

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