



1551 Highway 88 West \* Brick, New Jersey 08724-2399  
(732) 458-7000 \* FAX (732) 458-0822  
www.brickmua.com

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## **WINTER WEATHER WATER TIPS**

With the winter months upon us, now is the time to protect your home's plumbing from subfreezing temperatures. We offer the following winter weather tips to keep your pipes from freezing and what to do if they should freeze.

- Make sure crawlspace/basement covers, doors, windows, and vents are closed. Cold drafts are the leading cause of frozen pipes/water meters.
- Keep cabinet doors open under kitchen/bathroom sinks if they are adjacent to an exterior wall. This will allow the heat of your home into the cabinets and lessen the chance of those pipes from freezing.
- Allow water to trickle from a sink overnight during extreme cold conditions. This will allow constant flow and lessen the chance of freezing.
- In the event the pipes do freeze, heat the area of the frozen pipes and leave a cold faucet open. Leaving a faucet open will let you know when the pipes are thawed.
- Know where your main water shut off is (it is typically located by the water meter which is usually in the crawlspace, basement, or utility room). When the pipes do thaw, it may be necessary to turn the water off if any of the pipes or meter broke as a result of freezing.
- It is the responsibility of the homeowner to keep the water meter from freezing. If the meter should break as a result of freezing, please call Brick Utilities 732-458-7000 and we will send a representative to replace the meter. Please note the homeowner will be subject to a service call and cost of the meter (as per section 6.2.3 in our Schedule of Rates, Fees and Service Charges).

Taking preventative measures to protect your home's plumbing during the winter months is a good practice and could save you from having to make costly repairs.