



# WINTERIZING YOUR HOME AND YARD

## Starting outside:

- Remove all hoses from hose bibs. Then, drain the hoses before coiling them up.
- Consult your gardener/landscaper if you have one.
- Turn off your irrigation timers.
- Turn off all water valves to your irrigation systems and fountains.
- Drain your irrigation system to the best of your ability (a few tips, drain your backflow device at the petcocks, if you have access to compressed air you can blow the water out of your system)
- Insulate your valve manifolds and backflow devices (if they are in the ground in a box you can simply remove the lid and put some insulation in a trash bag and carefully lay it over the valves in the box and put the lid back on. If your valve manifold is above ground, wrap the assembly with insulation and put 1 or 2 heavy duty trash bags over the insulation and duck tape it up so the wind won't remove it).
- Putting snow poles with blue paint at the top of the pole next to any shut off valves and your water meter box are a great way to find them in an emergency.



## **THE NEXT TWO AREAS ARE THE MOST NEGLECTED!!**

### Under your house:

- Close all vents that were opened for the summer.
- All water lines should be wrapped in pipe insulation (hot and cold).
- Any water lines that are near open areas should have heat tape on under the pipe insulation.

### In your garage:

- All water lines should be wrapped in pipe insulation (hot and cold).
- Any water lines that are near open areas should have heat tape on under the pipe insulation.
- If you have your water heater in the garage, **do not turn it down to low or off if you go on vacation or leave for the winter - it will freeze without heat!**
- If your washer is in the garage turn the water off when not using it.

## **IF YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR HOUSE UNATTENDED**

### **In the house:**

- Shut all water off to the house. District Ordinances require a turn off valve on the customer's side of the meter. If your house does not have this feature, have one installed.**
- Drain as much water from the pipes as possible (open all faucets, this will help drain the lines and allows any freezing water to expand if something does freeze).
- Leave the heater on at a low temperature to avoid freezing in the house (no matter how good you think you drained the pipes there still can be water in them).

### **If you can't turn the water off to your house:**

- Turn off the water valves to your toilets.
- Leave the heater on at a low temperature to avoid freezing.
- Leave 1 or 2 faucets on at furthest locations from the water source entering the house at a very low dribble to help keep the water flowing and not freezing just in case of a power outage and your heater is not working (A good idea would be to call the NTPUD and let them know you are running water so when we do a monthly meter read we don't think you have a water leak).