



WARNING: FROZEN WATER LINES: WARNING

A Seeley Lake resident has experienced a frozen water line. Therefore, the Water District is asking residents to be aware of the temperature of your water and take any necessary precautions. If you have experienced a frozen line in the past, or if someone in your neighborhood has a frozen service line, the best prevention is to start a trickle of water.

This winter with the cold spells that we have experienced the frost has set in to the ground pretty hard. As the temperature warms the frost is driven into the ground even deeper. At this point we are experiencing frost in roads and driveways 5-6 feet deep or more. If you have a frozen service line the cost of thawing the line can be expensive. Also, there are a limited number of plumbers that have the equipment to thaw. The thawed lines are then more susceptible to being frozen again, unless a steady stream of water is continuously run through the water line.

We recommend everyone, even homeowners on private water systems, should trickle water to keep your water line from freezing!! What residents need to know and understand is that the likelihood of frozen water lines WILL INCREASE when the outside temperature rises and drives the frost further down into the ground.

The Water District is recommending that residents take preventative measures to keep their water lines from freezing. While these are not guaranteed to prevent a frozen water line, they will substantially reduce the risk. Some recommendations are as follows:

- **Keep a stream of water flowing at all times:**

The best way to prevent the service line from freezing is to keep the water moving or running. Turn a faucet on with a steady stream, about an eighth inch in width. This is effective to prevent freezing.

- **If possible do not plow over the top of your water service line:**

A vehicle driving on roads pushes the frost deeper and faster into the ground than anything! If you know where your service line is you should try not to drive over it. Snow is a great insulator to stop frost as well. If you remove the snow from an area that has not been touched you will notice there is no frost in that ground. In the roads and driveways, the frost is very deep.

Please try to do everything you can to keep your personal water safe. If you have questions about this situation, please call the Water District at 406 677-2559. Thank you! Keep the water flowing!