

Winslow Township Newsletter

Connections

Fall
2018



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A letter from the Mayor

Dear Residents and Friends

Summer has now given way to a new school year, fall sports and cooler temperatures. The Township enjoyed a very active summer this year with a lot of new summer events. We had several concerts in the various parks sponsored by the Camden County Board of Freeholders that were very well attended and a lot of family fun. Also new this year were the movies in the parks, bringing a fun new opportunity for kids of all ages.



Barry M. Wright - Mayor

The Jersey Surf Drum and Bugle Corps, who performed along with the Winslow Township High School Marching Band at the Memorial Day service, placed 520 flags on the lawn of the Township Municipal Building in honor of those who have served. We are so thankful to see our young people take an active role in these Township events and for honoring the brave men and women who help keep us safe.

Now that fall is upon us, I am extremely excited about what the Township has to offer as we head into the cooler months. This summer we saw a lot of wonderful events for residents of all ages – and we are not slowing down! The Township and Fire Department are teaming up to bring you the Fall Festival/Fire Prevention event in October, and of course we have the Veteran's Day event to honor those who have given so much for our country, and a tree lighting event for the kids in December which will be held at the Municipal Building this year.

The Township will continue its due diligence and make identifying residential concerns and issues a top priority. However we must all work together to make these goals a success. Maintaining a clean community is a responsibility for all those who live, work or visit our Township. The Township works closely with Camden County to continuously monitor our roads and do our very best to keep the roads safe and maintained. Keeping our parks a useful, enjoyable place is also very important and a top priority. The Township has received grants to continue to update and upgrade parks throughout the Township. I am so grateful to have such

continued on page 3

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WINSLOW TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

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A letter from the Mayor *continued from page 1*

a large scope of volunteers who help keep our Township such a healthy, wonderful place to live. It is truly a team effort! Thank you to all of those who serve!

The Township continues to see steady growth of new commercial entities and also residential homes. This increase of commercial growth brings new ratables and new opportunities to the Township. Aldi Food Market in Sicklerville is coming soon to Cross Keys Road – a nice addition providing residents with more healthy food options for families. We also have seen the new startup of production at Johns Manville which has created approximately 260 vital jobs for our area. Phase three of the Sicklerville Sidewalk Project is now complete along Kali Road. We hope you have taken advantage of the new sidewalks connecting residents with local stores, restaurants and public transportation.

As always, our Township employees are here and ready to assist you. Please take the time to read through this newsletter to learn more about how we can assist you – and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach us at (609) 567-0700 or send us a message through the Township mobile app – GORequest.

Mayor Barry M. Wright



Memorial Day Event at Township Municipal Complex 2018

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Got a question? We have the answers!

Got a question? We heard you. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions.

- **Why was my trash not picked up?**
 - o Make sure that your trash is inside the trash and recycling containers provided by the Township. ONLY trash/recycling that is inside the container (other than “bulk” items such as mattresses or sofas – which are picked up by a separate truck later in the day) will be picked up. Is your trash out properly but still not picked up? Report it on the Township App – GOREquest – and provide a photo if possible. You can also call Public Works at (609) 567-0700.
- **Why does it takes a few weeks sometimes for a concern to get resolved that was reported on the app?**
 - o Most code enforcement violations (such as high grass at a vacant property, illegal dumping, etc.) can take two weeks, sometimes more, because mandated notification must be made to those involved before the Township can remedy the property on its own. Thankfully, most matters can be resolved much sooner. If you have reported a problem property and want an update, please reach out to Code Enforcement at (609) 567-0700.

Answers to most questions can be found on the Township’s mobile app GOREquest under “Frequently Asked Questions” – or you can always submit a request for any questions.

We’re here to help!

Getting Married?

Applications for Marriage Licenses, Civil Unions and Domestic Partnerships will be taken by APPOINTMENT only and must be at least 18 years of age.

- The application for a license is made in the New Jersey Municipality in which **either party resides**.
- If neither applicant is a New Jersey resident, the application should be made in the municipality where the marriage ceremony will be performed, the license is only valid in the issuing municipality.
- There is a mandatory 72 hour waiting period after the application is made before a license can be issued.
- **Please call to schedule your appointment or should you have any questions (609) 567-0700 extensions 8006 or 8008**

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Winslow Township Code Enforcement is responsible for preserving the quality and value of public and private property. To ensure every citizen the right to a clean, enjoyable neighborhood and community environment we constantly seek a partnership with the community.

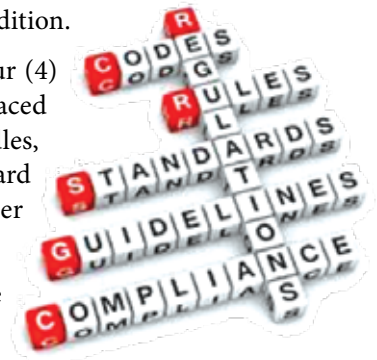
Here are some friendly reminders:

- No trash/garbage shall be placed at the curb any earlier than 5 p.m. the day before collection.
- Remove trash containers from the street/curb on the same day trash has been collected.
- Remove grass, weeds, snow or ice from the sidewalks. Sidewalks must be cleared for safe pedestrian passing.
- Vegetation shall not obstruct sidewalks, driveway, curb or right-of-way.
- All exterior property and premises shall be maintained in a

clean, safe and sanitary condition.

- Branches shall be cut in four (4) ft. lengths and tied or placed in containers with handles, marked “yard waste”. Yard waste must be placed in paper bags.
- No person shall leave any partially dismantled, inoperable, wrecked or junked vehicle on any street or highway within the township.
- The parking of motor vehicles, vehicle trailers, boat trailers and boats on a front yard is prohibited.

We are proud to serve our community!



Winslow Seniors are on the Move, Enjoying Life and Riding in Style on the Bus!!!

Winslow Township Seniors are on the move, enjoying life, and traveling in style on their new bus, with their helpful driver, Heather. The wheels on the bus started turning in May, and our seniors have made stops at local shopping centers for groceries, household items and apparel. They also make plenty of time for enjoying life, socializing and visiting fun locations like, the Cape May Zoo, Tropicana Casino, Smithville, Pitman Theater, Movies in the Park and Oyster Creek. If you're a senior and live in Edgewood Acres, Strawberry Village, Norway's, Elmtowne, CCU Senior Housing, Colleen Manor, or Taylor Woods, take advantage of this free service. So jump aboard, meet some new friends, and take a ride on the bus. The bus runs Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. If you're interested in local shopping, or maybe a day out with other active fun-loving adults, call Heather (609) 820-4481.



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WINSLOW

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Winslow EMS provides 911 ambulance service to all of Winslow Township and at times provide assistance to our neighboring communities.

Questions or issues can be directed to Chief Joyce Midure at 609-567-5500.

For any billing questions please contact our billing department at 856-784-3715 Ext: 124

Helpful Tips from your EMS Providers:

Please help us help you! Make sure your house number is clearly marked and please keep an updated list of your medical history, medications and allergies.



THINK SAFETY!

- Please ensure that your children are in the correct car seat and car seats are properly installed.
- Please keep all medicine in a secured area away from children.
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For more information contact Winslow Township Public Works 609-567-0700, Option 2

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

It's that time of the year again...Added and Omitted Assessments

Every October, all tax assessors file a list of properties that allows them to assess new construction, additions, renovations and other improvements to properties that have been completed in that calendar year. Exempt properties that become taxable during the year will also be included.

To determine the added assessment, the property is valued in its totality at full market value (not just the portion that was added) then the existing assessment is subtracted. The improvement is valued as of the first day of the month following when it is substantially completed for its intended use. The added assessment is prorated for the number of full months remaining in the tax year and the full market value becomes the assessment the following year.

Please note that the completion date as determined by the Assessor is not the same as the date of the C.O., C.A. or final inspection. Not scheduling a final inspection for your building permit does not delay the added assessment tax bill. Furthermore, not getting a permit does not prevent an assessment. An assessment of an improvement is made regardless of whether there was a permit or not.

An omitted assessment is an additional assessment that by error was not placed on the property at the proper time. The omitted assessment can be made for the current year or the prior year.

The added assessment and the omitted assessment tax bills are mailed at the end of October and are due on November 1st. The deadline for filing an added or omitted appeal is December 1st. Even if you disagree with the added or omitted assessment, you must still pay the bill for the appeal to be heard.

The township offers a five-year residential abatement up to \$25,000 on certain residential home improvement projects for homes that are 15 years of age or older. The abatement application must be submitted to the assessor's office no later than 30 days after completion of the improvement. More information and applications can be found on our website.

Additionally on our website is information on senior and veteran deductions and totally disabled veteran exemptions.



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FINANCE

Municipalities have a massive amount of infrastructure (roads; water and sewer lines, water treatment towers and wells; sewer collection systems; public buildings; heavy machinery; etc.) that needs to be repaired, upgraded, and ultimately in most cases, replaced. With Statutory limits on annual budget increases, these projects must be financed through the issuance of bonds.

Managing that debt is a key component of maintaining a stable financial base. When issuing bonds, Winslow Township always seeks to time new bonded debt so that it, as closely as possible, coincides with old debt that is paid off and coming off the books. The reason we do that is to avoid spikes and valleys in our debt service, which could have the potential to adversely impact our annual budget process.

Our most recent bond sale that occurred this past May was planned in exactly that fashion. The result is a savings of several hundred thousand dollars over the life of the bond issue, attributable to the planned timing and structure of the sale, and a very low interest rate.

As we have mentioned in the past, events such as our bond sale are not “stand alone” events. Positive results such as this are all connected with our budget process, budget management and our bond rating. It is all part of the ongoing cycle to provide the best services and infrastructure possible at the most cost effective price.

PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes in New Jersey are due quarterly, February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. A courtesy 10-day grace period is normally available. A payment may be made before its due date; however, if a payment is not received within the grace period, interest is calculated from the date the payment was originally due. State law mandates that any payment that is late is subject to interest charges. Amounts up to \$1,500 are charged 8% interest. Amounts over \$1,500 are charged 18% interest.

Property taxes, utility charges and any other municipal charges are assessed on the property itself. Annually (June/July) the tax rate is struck. New tax bills are then produced. They are for the 3rd and 4th quarter of the current year and the 1st and 2nd quarter of the next year. The State takes the position that taxes are assessed on the property, and it is the responsibility of the current property owner to pay the taxes regardless of the receipt of a tax bill.

NJ statute requires all municipalities to hold a Tax Sale annually. When an unpaid balance from municipal, county or state charges, i.e. taxes, public works, township utilities or Camden County Municipal Utility Authority (CCMUA) exists from the preceding year, the property is included in the Tax Sale. The tax sale is usually held each October.

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CONSTRUCTION

Continued Certificate of Occupancy is required by Winslow Township prior to selling a home/business, or change of tenants of a commercial bldg.. Please contact the Winslow Township Fire Department at 609-561-4225 for further information regarding their inspection fees and requirements.

At this time the Construction Office does not accept payments over the phone or online.

Due to the recent changes to UCC Regulations, roof and siding permits for 1 & 2 family dwellings are not required unless you are replacing sheathing or using polypropylene siding. The Construction Office will accept and process permits for these projects if the home owner would like to have an inspection to ensure the job was done properly and to code.



Please be reminded that the yearly landlord registration period will be approaching in January. Typically the invoices will be sent out in December. Make sure to update any changes and add tenant information on the invoice prior to submitting to the Township. If your inspection fails, please be sure the responsible person repairs the violations and the property is re-inspected.

Continued Certificate of Occupancy (CCO) inspections may fail for work without permits, so be sure to obtain the proper permits for home improvement projects and have the proper inspections to close out the permit. Gas or electric water heater replacements seems to be a common permit homeowners overlook.

Sheds over 200 sq. ft. require a construction permit. All sheds require a zoning permit.

Dumpster permits are required, however for those that are going to be placed for 2 weeks or less still need to register but no fee is required.



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Slow Down: Back to School Means Sharing the Road



As the 2018-2019 school year begins we want to remind the motoring public of some driving tips to keep everyone safe:

School days bring congestion: Yellow school buses are picking up children, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, and hurried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work.

It's never more important for drivers to slow down and pay attention than when kids are present – especially before and after school.

A few precautions go a long way toward keeping children safe:

- Don't block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn, forcing pedestrians to go around you; this could put them in the path of moving traffic
- In a school zone when flashers are blinking, stop and yield to pedestrians crossing the crosswalk or intersection
- Always stop for a police officer or crossing guard holding up a stop sign
- Take extra care to look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks, and in all residential areas

- Don't honk or rev your engine to scare a pedestrian, even if you have the right of way
- Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians
- Always use extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians wherever they may be, no matter who has the right of way

If you're driving behind a bus, allow a greater following distance than if you were driving behind a car. It will give you more time to stop once the yellow lights start flashing. **IT IS ILLEGAL IN ALL 50 STATES TO PASS A SCHOOL BUS THAT IS STOPPED TO LOAD OR UNLOAD CHILDREN.**

- Never pass a bus from behind – or from either direction if you're on an undivided road – if it is stopped to load or unload children
- If the yellow or red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, traffic must stop
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children; stop far enough back to allow them space to safely enter and exit the bus
- Be alert; children often are unpredictable, and they tend to ignore hazards and take risks

By exercising a little extra care and caution, drivers and pedestrians can co-exist safely in school zones.

LITTERING / ILLEGAL DUMPING

The Police Department has received numerous complaints for Littering / Illegal Dumping throughout Winslow Township. Please be advised that fines imposed for Littering / Illegal Dumping are \$500.00. I have ordered our police officers to have zero tolerance for anyone caught Littering / Illegal Dumping. Please call 609-561-3300 to report anyone littering / Illegal Dumping.

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THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES!

The Winslow Township Governing Body would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter, for it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at minimal charge to the Township. The Township is not permitted to endorse any business, service or product, however, the Township does encourage residents to consider all the various businesses that are available throughout the Township and to "buy local".

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WINSLOW TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP ANONYMOUS CRIME TIP LINE

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This TIP LINE is available for you to CONFIDENTIALLY share anything about a crime, a planned crime, or suspicious activity in Winslow Township, as well as any information about a disgruntled employee, an emotionally disturbed person, or a threatening situation which could develop into a violent act or assault. Knowledge of threats or potential acts of violence need to be brought to the attention of the police department, so they can immediately act to prevent anyone from being injured, All threats need to be taken seriously, and any information provided will be acted upon.

The following are examples of information which should be reported:

- The identity of someone in possession of a gun
- The identity of a person threatening another
- The identity of someone who may be suicidal
- Violent writings, notes, voicemail, or email threatening to others
- Rumors of planned violence or an assault on someone
- Use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol
- Domestic violence occurring, or which may occur
- Activity or conditions that may be illegal or dangerous
- The identity of a criminal suspect, or the location of a wanted person



Fighting Crime in Winslow Township!

Remember, the TIP LINE is CONFIDENTIAL. This is a phone line that goes directly to a phone messaging system where you can leave your message. This line is available 24 hours a day and is checked daily. You do not have to leave your name. Sometimes additional information would be helpful, and there may be a reason to contact you, so it may be useful for you to leave your number. But the most important thing is that the information is reported to someone who can do something about it. This TIP LINE is NOT for reporting emergencies, if you need emergency assistance please call 911.

Thank you for your call.

WINSLOW TOWNSHIP POLICE SOCIAL MEDIA

Winslow Township Police Department utilizes several social media sites to keep residents informed of traffic related issues within the township such as construction projects, closed roads as well as police press releases, found animals and upcoming community policing events. Throughout the year we post pictures of different events that take place within our community. Please join us to stay up to date on important information within Winslow Township.



Winslow Township Police Social Media Sites:

- NEXTDOOR.COM
- FACEBOOK.COM (WINSLOW TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT)
- NIXLE.COM
- SMART 911
- TWITTER (@ WINSLOWPOLICE)

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WINSLOW TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

9 Cedar Brook Road • Phone: 609-561-4225 • EMERGENCIES DIAL 911



The Winslow Township Fire Department responded to 1,521 calls for help in 2017. As of June 30th we have responded to 1,093 incidents. We are a combination fire department consisting of both volunteer and career firefighters serving the community 24/7 from 6 fire stations covering nearly 60 square miles. Along with responding to calls, the Fire Department is very engaged in the community; responding to incidents, participating in public education/relations events, supporting many charity events and Fire Code Enforcement.



We would like to remind everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors the same time we change our clocks. An operable detector is a life saver; please test them monthly! We would also like to ask you to keep your address posted and visible to view from the street to assist us in finding you.



The Fire Department is continuously trying to recruit interested individuals to volunteer and join our team to protect OUR Community. Volunteers make up the majority of our organization.

- **FREE** Training
- LOSAP- After 2 years of service, the Winslow Township Fire Department will contribute money into a retirement fund for each volunteer that meets the minimum requirements as outlined in the Winslow Township Fire District point system.
- Annual Stipend
- Volunteer Tuition Credit Program for College


If you are interested in joining the department, please call the office (609)561-4225 or visit our website at www.winslowtwpfd.org.

For a tour of a firehouse or our attendance at a Public Relations/Education event, please visit our website at www.winslowtwpfd.org.

Fire Prevention Week is October 7-13, 2018. The Winslow Township Fall Festival which features our annual Fire Prevention/Halloween Festival will be held on October 6th, 2018 (rain date is October 13th) between the hours of 11:00 am. – 3:00 p.m. at Millers Farm, 134 N. Grove Street in the Cedar Brook section of Winslow Township. To stay informed and up-to-date on WTFD happenings, like us on Facebook.



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Saturday/6:00pm (traditional/casual) Fellowship Hall
Sunday Services /9:00am and 10:30am (blended) Main Sanctuary
Sunday Services /10:30am (contemporary) Fellowship Hall

10/28 Trunk or Treat

Lord's Clothes Tree Thrift Shop – Tuesdays & Thursdays 1-4 pm (closed July) 406 Church Road Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Senior Citizen (50+) Luncheon – 2nd Wednesday of each month (Sept. thru June) 856-728-1636

Children, Youth and Adult Programs sicklervillechurch.com

Planning and Zoning

Have a question about a fence or an expansion you're doing at your home? Questions about some property you may be interested in purchasing? Contact the Planning and Zoning Department!

Deborah Wells (609) 567-0700 extension 8006 or dwells@winslowtownship.com or Barbara Householder at extension 8007 or bhouseholder@winslowtownship.com



Talking/Texting While Driving **WILL COST YOU!**

Winslow Township reminds its residents, and those driving through the Township, that are talking or texting while driving on a handheld device is strictly prohibited by law – not to mention dangerous to yourself and others driving on the roadways. If caught, this will require a mandatory court appearance, hundreds of dollars in fines and possibly more. Don't risk your life and that of others – put down the phone and stay safe!



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SAVE THE DATE!

Utilities Resource Expo

Saturday, September 27, 2018

2pm - 8pm

Location:

Municipal Complex Courtroom

125 South Route 73,

Braddock NJ 08037



Holiday Tree Lighting

Friday, December 7, 2018

Rain Date: Friday, December 14, 2018

6:30pm - ****SANTA ARRIVES AT 7:00PM****

*****NEW LOCATION*****

Municipal Building

125 South Route 73 , Braddock NJ 08037



Fall Festival

(also known as Fire Prevention/Halloween Festival)

Saturday, October 6, 2018

Rain Date: Saturday, October 13, 2018

11:00am - 3:00pm

Location: Miller's Farm

134 North Grove Street Berlin, NJ 08009



Rabies Clinic

Saturday, January 26, 2019 • 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Public Works Garage – 125 South Route 73

(Behind Municipal Building)

Renew your pet licenses during the month of January 2019.

Your current license will expire December 31, 2018.

Registration of animals after March 31, 2019 will be considered late, and a \$25.00 late fee will be charged in addition to the regular license fee per animal.



Health Expo

Saturday, October 27, 2018 • 11am – 1pm

Location: Bud Duble Center Senior Center

33 Cooper Folly Road Atco, NJ 08004



General Election Day Dates to Remember

October 16, 2018 –

Voter registration deadline for General Election Day

October 30, 2018 –

Deadline to apply for mail-in ballot for General Election Day

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

General Election Day - 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

Veterans Day

Monday, November 12, 2018 • 11:00am

Location: War Memorial at Municipal Complex –

125 South Route 73 Braddock NJ 08037





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Monthly Cruise Night

Cruise night on the last Friday of every month starting at 5:30PM.

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 All cars, trucks, jeeps & motor cycles are welcome to attend!

*Drivers must arrive by 6pm. Vouchers are valid day of the event only



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Cold Weather Tips For Inside and Outside your Home

As winter quickly approaches and temperatures continue to fall, Winslow Township Utilities wants to remind homeowners to protect their pipes from frigid weather to prevent costly plumbing repairs

The best strategy in combating the cold winter months is a proactive one. Taking certain preventative measures to winterize homes and learning how to properly maintain and conserve resources, particularly during the cold weather months, can help prevent pipes and meters from freezing in your home and causing larger problems in the long term.

Winslow Township Utilities encourages its customers to take the following precautions to reduce the risk of freezing pipes that can burst.



Main shut off valve

Make sure everyone in your home knows where the main water shut off valve is located so you can turn off the water in an emergency. When you locate your valve, mark it with an identification tag. The valve is typically located where the water line enters the home. This could be in the basement, crawl space, or utility closet. This also applies to Winslow Township residents with private wells.

Preparing for cold weather

Check for pipes that pass through unheated spaces or rooms, such as crawl spaces, basements, garages or uninsulated exterior walls. Protect exposed pipes by wrapping them with heat tape, pre-molded foam, rubber sleeves, or fiberglass insulation. All of these items are available at hardware stores. If you have installed heat tape on exposed pipes, inspect the tape for cracks or fraying, and make needed repairs.

If your meter is outside, make sure your meter lid is closed tightly.

Eliminate sources of cold air near pipes by sealing openings or cracks that could cause drafts. Close vents in crawlspaces.

Drain all outdoor garden hoses, roll them up, and store them inside to prevent cracking. If you have an indoor valve for outside hose bibs, shut it off, and drain the water from pipes leading to the hose bibs. Additionally, turn off and drain your irrigation system.

When temperatures consistently fall below freezing

- For kitchen or other sinks up against cold, exterior walls, open cabinets to let warm air in your home reach the pipes
- Allow a small trickle of water to run overnight to keep pipes from freezing. The cost of the extra water is typically lower than the cost of repairing a broken pipe.
- If your pipes do freeze, shut off the water immediately. Don't attempt to thaw frozen pipes unless the water is shut off.
- Freezing can often cause unseen cracks in pipes or joints when thawed. Apply heat to a frozen pipe by warming air around it. Avoid the use of kerosene heaters or open flames. Once the pipes have thawed, slowly turn the water back on and check for cracks and leaks.

If you are going away

- If you are going away, leave your thermostat set at 55 degrees to prevent freezing pipes. If the water meter is located in your home and freezes, the homeowner/business is responsible for the cost to replace or repair the meter.
- Have a friend, relative or neighbor regular check your property to ensure that the heat is working and the pipes have not frozen.
- If no one will be home for an extended period of time during extreme weather, consider turning your water off inside your property and drain your system. That way if your furnace stops working, there will be no water in your pipes to freeze.

Report Leaking Pipes!

Winslow Township Utilities also advises that sub-freezing temperatures can hasten water mains to leak. If you see a leak, or your water service is disrupted, please contact the utilities department during normal business hours 609-567-0700. After hours emergencies only 609-561-3300.

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