

# PRESS RELEASE



December 8, 2017

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## Tips for Preventing Frozen Water Pipes this Winter

**LEXINGTON, Ky., (Dec. 8, 2017)** – Colder weather has arrived here in the Bluegrass. Kentucky American Water reminds customers of ways they can help prevent home water pipes from freezing this winter.

Frozen water lines typically occur in areas such as crawl spaces or along the outside walls where unprotected plumbing tends to be more vulnerable to the elements. Implementing the following winterization tips now can help avoid headaches later:

- Search your house for un-insulated pipes, especially in unheated areas. Check attics, crawl spaces, and outside walls. Consider wrapping pipes with insulation sleeves. Another option is electric heating tape, but follow manufacturers' instructions carefully to avoid a fire hazard.
- Seal cracks and holes in outside walls and foundations with caulking to keep cold air away from pipes, especially where cable TV or phone lines enter the house.
- When below-freezing temperatures occur, keep a slow trickle of water flowing through faucets that are supplied by pipes running through an unheated or unprotected space to keep the water from freezing, and keep kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors open to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.
- Make sure you disconnect and drain garden hoses if you have not done so already.
- Drain and shut off entirely the water to any unoccupied residence such as a summer or vacation home. A loss of power during a winter storm could cause pipes to freeze.

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- Set the thermostat no lower than 55 degrees if you're going out of town. Although you may be able to get away with a lower temperature, this setting is considered to be safe for pipes.
- Make sure you know where your main water shut-off valve is located inside your home so that you can shut off your water quickly in the event of a water pipe leak. This valve is often located in a utility room or closet or in the basement.

### **About Kentucky American Water**

Kentucky American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately half a million people. The company earned Best Place to Work in Kentucky honors in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017. For more information, visit [www.kentuckyamwater.com](http://www.kentuckyamwater.com).

### **About American Water**

Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. Marking its 130th anniversary this year, the company employs more than 6,700 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 47 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found at [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).

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