

**City of Wooster
Water Utilities
Fall 2020 Note from the Utilities Manager**



The seasonal chill is upon us....

As we continue to eagerly walk to the 2020 finish line, may "endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another". May you experience the fullness of the heart during the holiday season. So as you work through year end lists, I have a few items of consideration.

Each winter customers are faced with frozen water pipes in the home. The rate of frozen pipes increase when the temperature is consistently below 20 degrees. This situation may result in expensive plumbing repairs and possible water damage.

Here are a few tips for your home to prevent freezing water pipes.

- ⇒ Insulate pipes in any unheated portions of your home. These areas include exterior walls, crawl spaces, basements, cabinets, or any other enclosures that prevent warm air circulation. Be on the lookout for damp insulation; water soaked insulation can cause water line freezing. Wrap outside faucets or hose bibs if you do not have a separate shut off valve in the house for the outside faucets. Also, caulk and seal around pipes where they may enter the house.
- ⇒ Locate your shut off valve for your water supply in your house. Knowing where your main shut off valve is located and if it is operable is important regardless of the weather. Take time to actually turn it off and on to ensure that it is working. If your water pipe begins to leak due to freezing knowing where this valve is could save you thousands of dollars in water damage repairs.

Backflow Prevention Program updates and we need your help!

Every time you turn on a faucet in your home you expect a flow of high quality drinking water. Safe, clean drinking water is the solemn commitment from your Utilities staff. High quality water is not left to chance, there is an intentional protection effort in play every day. Every resident can play a role in protecting our water and ensure we have clean water every time we turn on the faucet.

Please see our updated "Backflow Prevention Program" page on our website located at

<https://www.woosteroh.com/water/backflow-prevention-program>

There you will find helpful information about this program, why it is important and how you can help. Under the "What can I do?" section you will find a link to an on line survey called "Cross Connection Control Survey", completing this survey will ensure the integrity of Wooster's drinking water at the end user. You can play a role in protecting one of our most precious resources in this community. This water use survey is to ensure the water used stays where it should and provide direction for future educational information. For example if you have a hot tub or pool, occasionally you will need to top it off with a garden hose. While innocuous on the surface, the hose in the pool has the potential, under specific circumstances, to be siphoned back into the water main line. You or your neighbors don't want the chance of drinking someone else's pool or hot tub water. This program is to prevent backflow potential through better practices and a small prevention device like a vacuum breaker.



For more information on your Wooster Water Utilities or the Prevention Program please contact the Utilities Manager, Nathan W. Coey at 330-263-5284 or via email at ncoey@woosteroh.com