



TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE BE PREPARED BEFORE A FREEZE HITS THE MOTHER LODGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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According to the National Weather Service, the Mother Lode can expect temperatures to drop into the upper 20's in the evenings. Tuolumne Utilities District is urging customers to make sure their home and property is ready to withstand freezing temperatures

“Taking time now to do some preventative measures can save water customer’s money and inconvenience should their pipes freeze,” states Pete Kampa, General Manager for TUD. Last year when a freeze hit Tuolumne County, it cost TUD over \$22,000 just in overtime hours to respond to emergency water breaks from pipes bursting. “This does not include the cost our customers incurred to fix broken pipes on their property”.

Here are a few tips:

- Outside faucets, pipes and pipes in unheated garages and crawl spaces are most vulnerable to freezing weather. To prevent pipes from freezing, wrap them with insulating material. Cover them with plastic and secure with tape, string, or wire. Also, remember to disconnect garden hoses.
- Find your main water shut-off valve now! If a pipe breaks, you can stop excessive water loss and flooding by turning off your main water shut-off valve. It is commonly located next to the meter, in the garage, or outdoors by the foundation.
- Store some extra water during freezing weather in case a main break or frozen pipe cuts off your water supply.

For more winterizing tips, visit the TUD website at tudwater.com.