

N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 1

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## SMART ABOUT WATER QUICK FACT:

### 100,000 Gallons Down the Drain!

Here's something that will probably surprise you: an old, leaky toilet flapper can leak as much as 100,000 gallons of water in a month. It's hard to believe, but it's true. You can learn how to fix leaks at [www.tmwa.com/howto](http://www.tmwa.com/howto).

## NOW IS THE TIME! WINTERIZE YOUR HOME AND AVOID FROZEN PIPES!

As temperatures drop this winter, you can avoid the expense and trouble of frozen water lines at your home or business by taking these simple precautions before cold temperatures set in:

- ❄ If you have water pipes in an unheated garage or a crawl space under the house, wrap the pipes with insulation. Hardware and home improvement stores offer appropriate pipe-wrapping tape.
- ❄ Close the foundation or exterior vents around your house to keep freezing air out of crawl spaces. Additionally, seal off access doors, air vents, and cracks. Cold winds can quickly freeze exposed pipes. Remember to avoid plugging air vents that your furnace or water heater may need for circulation and safe operation.
- ❄ Keep garage doors closed if water lines are exposed.
- ❄ Adjust your home thermostat. During hard freezes or when you're away from your home for an extended period, set your thermostat to a temperature that will prevent your pipes from freezing—no lower than 55°F.
- ❄ Know the location of your master water shutoff valve. In many homes, this valve is located where the water line enters your house from the street. If a pipe bursts anywhere in your house, this valve can be used to turn off all water and save your home from water damage. Find it now and paint it a bright color or hang a tag on it. Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is. See our video about how to operate your master shutoff valve at [www.tmwa.com/howto](http://www.tmwa.com/howto).

During this time of year, it's always wise to monitor the weather—specifically for freezing temperatures—and be sure to winterize in time to protect your home's pipes. The main point of winterization is to be prepared before the cold weather sets in. No one wants the unwelcome surprise of broken pipes. For more tips and a how-to video on winterizing your home, please visit TMWA's winterization webpage at the following address: [www.tmwa.com/winterize](http://www.tmwa.com/winterize).



TURF TALK: SPRINKLER SYSTEMS SHOULD BE SHUT DOWN

If you haven't done it yet, it's time to turn off and winterize your irrigation system—especially with lawns mostly going dormant this time of year. We usually recommend doing this by Nevada Day (or Halloween), depending on weather conditions. Don't forget to disconnect and drain all outdoor hoses as well. We've created a short video to guide you through the process at [tmwa.com/howto](https://tmwa.com/howto).



REMEMBER: HOLIDAYS CAN CAUSE DELAYS IN MAIL

Because of the increase in mail volume during the holiday season, your water bill could arrive later than usual. Please keep this in mind and allow for extra time when making your payment by mail during this busy season.



GET SOCIAL! FOLLOW US ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK

How do you make your social media experience more interesting? Just add water! Follow TMWA on Twitter, YouTube, or Instagram, or become a fan on Facebook. We regularly post water-related news, information, and events.

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[facebook.com/truckeemeadowswaterauthority](https://facebook.com/truckeemeadowswaterauthority)

[truckeemeadowswaterauthority](https://instagram.com/truckeemeadowswaterauthority)

[youtube.com/truckeemeadowswater](https://youtube.com/truckeemeadowswater)

WHERE TO CALL

- GENERAL INQUIRIES .....834-8080
- EMERGENCY REPAIR .....834-8090
- WATER CONSERVATION .....834-8005
- WATER QUALITY .....834-8118
- WATER RIGHTS .....834-8029
- OMBUDSMAN .....848-0813



Truckee Meadows Water Authority is a not-for-profit, community-owned water utility, overseen by elected officials and citizen appointees from Reno, Sparks and Washoe County. TMWA employs a highly skilled team who ensure the treatment, delivery and availability of high-quality drinking water around the clock for more than 440,000 residents of the Truckee Meadows.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS: TBA**  
SEE [WWW.TMWA.COM/MEETINGS](https://WWW.TMWA.COM/MEETINGS) FOR UPDATES.

**CHRISTMAS EVE HOLIDAY**  
DECEMBER 24 (TMWA OFFICES CLOSED)

**NEW YEARS EVE HOLIDAY**  
DECEMBER 31 (TMWA OFFICES CLOSED)

FREE ONLINE EVENTS

RSVP FOR ONE OF TMWA'S UPCOMING WORKSHOPS OR CLINICS. AN UPDATED SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND AT [TMWA.COM/MEETING/](https://TMWA.COM/MEETING/)

