

# The Water Connection

December 2012



## Frozen Water Pipes

We're at that time of the year when outside temperatures can plummet. When that happens, water pipes can freeze. We see this often with homes without adequate insulation or exposed water pipes.

Unfortunately, the burst water pipes can be the least of your worries. A small crack in a pipe can spew a lot of water throughout a day. If this goes unnoticed, it can cause a lot of damage to your home and potential mold issues. Another thing to note is that once a burst pipe is thawed, the water could come out extremely fast. It's a good thing to know where your water shut-off is before finding out you have a leak.

To help keep your pipes from freezing, insulate exposed water pipes, make sure your house thermostat is not set too low, and disconnect garden hoses from outside spigots.

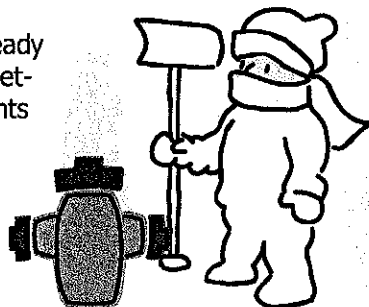
You can learn more by going to the internet and searching for frozen pipes.

## Automatic Payments

Every month we have a few customers who have either misplaced their statement, had a problem with mail delivery, or simply forgotten to make their payment. A good way to assure your payment is made each month in a timely fashion is to sign up for an ACH withdrawal. Each month you will receive your monthly water statement showing how much is owed. That amount will be automatically deducted from your checking account on either the 1st or the 10th of the month, whichever you prefer. It's a great way to avoid late charges, postage, and credit card fees. Call the office for a copy of this form or go to our website, [www.nkwsd.com](http://www.nkwsd.com).

## Please Help!

Snowy weather is on its way, if not already here by the time you receive this newsletter. Please help the local fire departments by keeping the snow clear from fire hydrants that are either on your property or near you. In the event of a fire emergency, this will save several valuable minutes.



## Conservation Tip



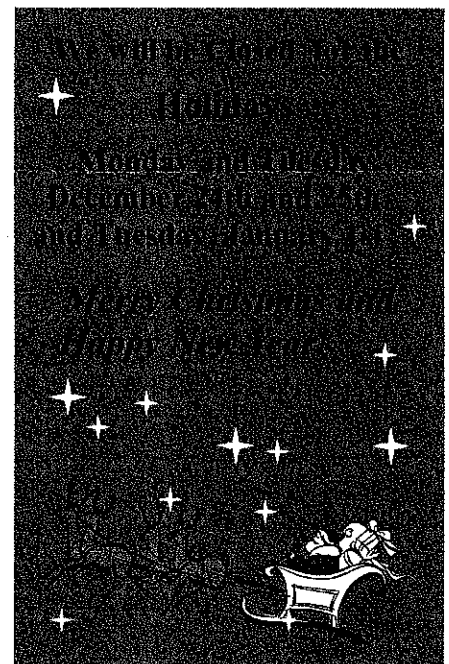
Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.

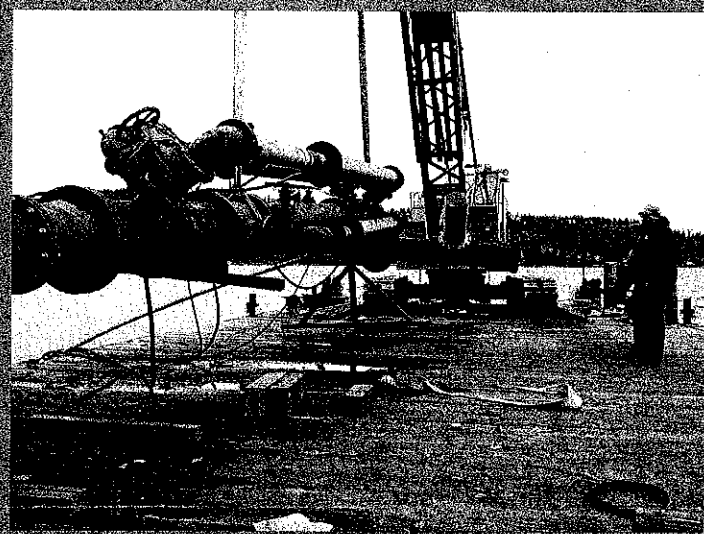
## ATTENTION!

### NKWSD WINTER OFFICE HOURS

Our winter office hours are

Monday through Friday  
7:30 am – 4:00 pm





In the picture on the left, Dan Messier, Waste Water Supervisor and on the right, PJ Luckler, O&M Operator, watch from the deck of the barge as they crane lift the intake structure from the lake to repair.

## ALL HANDS ON DECK

The District has been BUSY this fall. With the help of Get Wet Diving and North Idaho Marine, our staff repaired a large leak in our Crozier Ranch Lake Intake Structure. This leak occurred in piping underwater so the entire structure had to be brought to the surface to be fixed. This entire structure weighs in excess of 8,000 pounds! Not only did District staff fix the leak but they also made some modifications to the structure. These modifications will make it less susceptible to leaking in the future by affixing it more permanently to the bottom of the lake.

## METER INSULATION

Please DO NOT put house insulation around your meter. This will make the meter freeze due to the moisture that will be collected by the insulation. North Kootenai Water and Sewer District uses a hard foam insulation that sets in the top of the meter box. This holds the earth's heat in the box and keeps the meter from freezing. If you have had past problems with your meter freezing, call the District office and we will insulate your meter for you.



## Board Meetings

January Board meetings will be held on Thursdays, January 3rd and 17th. They will be held in our Rathdrum office beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Number of Customers  
now signed up for eBill is:

**152**

To sign up, go to [nkwsd.com](http://nkwsd.com) - Go Green!

**Board of Directors:**

Tom Crimmins, President  
Shirley Stoller, Vice President  
Alanna Brooks, Secretary  
Jim Omerso, Treasurer  
Jack Hern, Director

**811**

Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.

Remember, you must call 811 before digging for any reason, at any depth, at least 48 hours prior to digging.

**Locates Are Free.  
Repairs Are Not!**

