

# Are you ready for WINTER?

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Yes it is that time of year again! Some look forward to the season with no green foliage, short days, long nights, cold, and yes, that white stuff called snow. Others despise it, however, as long as we live and work in New York, we all must cope with the winter. So why not be as prepared as possible before the weather turns all bad. Here are some suggestions and tips to help.

- Flushing of hydrants, Fall is a good time to flush. Not only will it help with maintenance of the water mains and disinfection by-products, it is also a time to perform maintenance on your hydrants. Check to see if hydrants drain back; if not either pump out, add non-toxic antifreeze, or repair drain. Mark the hydrants; here are some examples of techniques.



*Typical flags or pole markers*



*Road markers painted on road in front of hydrant.*

- Have you serviced your back-up generator? How about servicing those saws, pumps, and other equipment? How are the coolant levels and condition? Does your equipment have block heaters? Do they work?
- How are your sidewalks or walkways? Check the exterior lights, remember the days are shorter. Do you have a snow shovel and ice melt in stock?
- You may want to mark your wellheads with a post or pole to prevent damage from snow removal or to assist with locating them when the ground is snow covered.
- Stock up on your chemicals and supplies; remember liquid chlorine shelf life is longer in cool temperatures. Just do not let your chemicals freeze!
- And how about your winter gear. Gloves, hat, jackets all ready to go?

And last, but not least, make sure your radio and/or TV work, after all its football season. All joking aside, winter is no joke! Be prepared, work and drive safely. And remember, we are here to help if needed so don't hesitate to call...💧

- Main valves; do you know where they are? If so, will a key get on the valve and will it operate? It is better to do this prior to frost in the ground!
- Meters; do you have problem meters that freeze and break regularly?
- For the mobile home parks - is the skirting on and insulation installed around the water service? It costs \$ when services need to run to prevent freezing.
- Are your leaks repaired? Better now than when its -10 with a wind chill of -30.
- How about your buildings. Have you checked and serviced the heating source? Is it insulated and sealed? Are the vents and chimneys free from obstructions? How is your heating fuel? How is the roof, gutters or drip edges, you don't want an ice build up or leak.

## NEW MEMBERS

A.C.I. Controls

Andes Water Dist. #1

Town of Binghamton

City of Clymer Water District

FedEx Trade Networks

JEM Enterprises

National Pipe & Plastics, Inc.

Royal Rhino, Inc.

Ryan Development

Springvale Water System

Sewerage Disposal Corp.

US Army Fort Drum