Ridgewood Water Weekly

December 26, 2025

Statewide Drought Warning Still in Effect

The recent snowfall did not significantly improve water supply conditions, according to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Longstanding dry conditions will need multiple months of consistent flows to allow water supply conditions to recover. As a result, New Jersey remains under a Statewide Drought Warning. **Residents are encouraged to continue following water conservation practices and to use water responsibly.**

Protect Your Pipes!



A burst pipe can release a significant amount of water in a very short period of time. This is why knowing how to shut off your main water valve quickly and taking preventive steps during cold weather are critical.

Insulate exposed pipes. Pipes located in unheated areas—such as basements, crawl spaces, attics, garages and exterior walls—should be insulated with foam pipe sleeves, fiberglass wrap or heat tape rated for plumbing use.

Seal air leaks. Cold air entering through gaps near pipes can cause rapid freezing. Seal cracks around windows, doors, vents and where pipes enter the home using caulk or spray foam.

Maintain consistent indoor heat. Keep your thermostat set to a steady temperature day and night, even if you are away. Interior warmth helps protect pipes within walls and ceilings.

Allow warm air to circulate. Open cabinet doors under sinks—especially those on exterior walls—to allow heated air to reach plumbing. This is particularly important during extended cold spells.

Let faucets drip during extreme cold. A slow, steady drip from faucets connected to vulnerable pipes can prevent freezing by keeping water moving. Even a small flow can reduce pressure buildup if ice begins to form.

Protect outdoor plumbing. Disconnect garden hoses, shut off and drain exterior faucets if possible, and install insulated faucet covers. Failure to do this is a common cause of winter pipe damage.

Locate your main water shutoff valve. And ensure all household members know how to operate it. In the event a pipe freezes or bursts, shutting off the water quickly can significantly limit damage.

Ridgewood Water *Serving Glen Rock, Midland Park, Ridgewood and Wyckoff*