

# Protect your pipes from FREEZING this week!

*Wednesday night and each night through Saturday night we are forecast to experience some serious freezing temperatures in the low teens.* Last February's cold spell was likely worse, but this is looking like it can be COLD.

Because this is not common around here and because we have quite a few new residents, many people don't think about what they should do to protect their water lines during such times. Because our area has not historically experienced severe freezing, most houses are not built with this hazard in mind.

1. *Cover your outdoor faucets! This is #1.* Your faucet nearest your water meter is likely the point at which your water line enters your home. The metal of that faucet can conduct the cold inside the wall and freeze water at that point. If you can't find the little covers made for faucets, (Home Depot, Lowes, ACE, Walmart) wrap the faucet with something to keep the air from circulating around it.
2. Water faucets, showers, laundry fixtures, and toilets *against outside walls* are your greatest points of risk.
3. *Run some water at night. At a fixture on an outside wall, turn on half hot water and half cold water to a flow of ½ gallon per minute.* Seriously, use a mason jar or measuring cup and run a quart in 30 seconds. If it fills faster, slow the water down. If it takes longer, speed the water flow up. *If you run the water at this rate all night, it will cost about \$1.25, which is way cheaper than a frozen or broken line.*



During that extreme cold spell last February, we did not have a single water meter freeze in Pecan Valley. If your water meter has a cover and the box is not broken to allow the wind to blow in it, then your meter should be fine. The ground doesn't freeze in this part of Oklahoma and the warmer air from the soil beneath the meter will keep the temperature in the meter box at a safe level.

*If your meter box is broken or lid is missing, please contact us so we can come by and protect your meter.* [pecanvalleyrwd@gmail.com](mailto:pecanvalleyrwd@gmail.com)

Or contact us through our website at [www.pecanvalleyrwd.com](http://www.pecanvalleyrwd.com)