

# Avoiding and Detecting Cold Weather Leaks

**Columbia, SC – February 18, 2015** – With temperatures likely to dip below freezing this evening, the City of Columbia reminds its water customers to take precautions to protect your pipes.

## Inside:

- Leave your faucets dripping.

## Outside:

- Disconnect any hoses or lines from your outside spigots.
- Turn OFF all outside spigots.
- Cover all outside spigots with blankets or insulated covers. These covers can be found at most hardware stores.



If you believe you have a leak, check for it as soon as you can to minimize water loss. One way to detect a leak is to turn off all spigots then check to see if your water meter is still running. If it is, you may have a leak. For more plumbing tips, visit <http://www.columbiasc.gov/customer-care/utility-billing/plumbing-tips/>.

If you have had a leak or other plumbing problem, you may be eligible for a charge reduction on your bill after you have fixed it. To find out more about qualifying for this assistance program, visit <http://www.columbiasc.gov/customer-care/utility-billing/plumbing-adjustments> or call (803) 545-3300.

By taking these few simple steps, you may be able to prevent the hassle and mess of a broken water line at home!

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*Please contact the City of Columbia Department of Utilities and Engineering at 545-3400 or Victoria Kramer ([vlkramer@columbiasc.net](mailto:vlkramer@columbiasc.net)) at 545-3227 if you have questions. If you would like to learn more about the City of Columbia's Customer Care Center, visit [columbiasc.gov/customer-care](http://columbiasc.gov/customer-care). If you would like to learn more about City of Columbia Department of Utilities and Engineering, visit [columbiasc.gov/utilities-engineering](http://columbiasc.gov/utilities-engineering).*