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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **First Cold Spell of Season is Reminder to Check Pipes and Plumbing**

The first cold temperatures of the season should be a reminder to take the necessary steps to prevent pipes and plumbing from freezing for when the thermometer goes even lower.

“The hard freeze of February 2011 was a wake-up call,” said Fernando Molina, Tucson Water Public Information Officer. “Pipes burst across the city. A better awareness resulted, on the part of residents and businesses, and cold weather preparation efforts increased. Last winter was much different.”

Properties should be checked for any exposed pipes that carry water. Foam and wrap insulation can be used to protect them from freezing. Evaporative coolers, backflow assemblies, and irrigation systems should also be given attention. “Tucson Water has procedures in place to analyze our sites and equipment, and we weatherize as needed,” said Director Alan Forrest. “We learned things as well.”

Tucson Water offers its popular “Homeowners’ Guide to Using Water Wisely” and the “Winterizing Tips” document for customers. To receive both, call the Public Information and Conservation Office (PICO) at (520) 791-4331, e-mail [pico@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:pico@tucsonaz.gov), or go online to H<sub>2</sub>O Topics at [tucsonaz.gov/water](http://tucsonaz.gov/water).

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