

Stop Box and Valves

- Most water services have a stop box on the street side of the meter pit (or near the front property line for inside meters). This top of the box is usually a 3-inch to 4-inch diameter disk, with a tube extending downward to a valve that is about 4½ to 6 feet deep. This valve helps the property owner and Lakehurst Water control the water flow if there is a leak in the service line or plumbing on the property. To serve its purpose, the stop box must be level with the ground around it and accessible to Lakehurst Water crews.
- There must be at least 2 to 5 feet of space around the stop box free of shrubbery, walls, or other obstructions that would interfere with turning the valve key. Lakehurst Water will replace a broken stop box cover when it is reported or observed, but all other maintenance of the stop box and valve is the responsibility of the property owner.
- Over time, curb stop valves will wear out and become hard to operate, or the operating nut will break off. If Lakehurst Water is unable to operate the valve, we will notify you that it needs to be replaced. You will need to have a licensed plumber do this work.

In an emergency call the District's main office number 24 hours a day at 303-985-7895. Calls received outside normal working hours will be answered by the District's answering service and the information will be directed to on call service personnel for assistance.

LAKEHURST WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

7995 West Quincy Ave.
Littleton, CO 80123
(303) 985-7895

David Bane, President
William "Jake" Schild, Vice President
Mitch Gerstenkorn, Treasurer
Steven Posavec, Secretary
Mike Cochran, Assistant Secretary

DISTRICT MANAGER
Steve Daldegan



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bulletin

12 Ways to Winterize Your Home and Prevent Broken Water Pipes This Winter

October is the perfect month to winterize. There are many things that homeowners can do to make the winter months more comfortable.

- Before winterizing your sprinkler system, check for leaks and broken sprinkler heads and have them repaired to expedite your spring irrigation.
- Winterizing your sprinkler system is simple: turn water off, drain valves, and blow out with compressed air.
- Drain and disconnect your swamp cooler before temperatures drop below freezing.
- Clean your gutters; once the leaves fall, remove debris and rinse with a garden hose so melting snow and rain can drain properly. Clogged drains can cause water to pool and freeze, producing hazardous conditions.
- Make sure that garden hoses are disconnected from outside faucets.
- Check your furnace to make sure it's working before the cold days of winter descend and don't forget to change the filters.

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- Insulate any gaps between the foundation and the framing of homes, and insulate areas that have water pipes in outside walls to help protect against freezing.
- Seal outside leaks with weather-resistant caulk. Use masonry sealer for brick areas, which withstands the elements of weather.
- Remove screens and replace with storm windows.
- Insulated covers for outside faucets are available at hardware stores.
- Reversing your ceiling fan will push warm air down forcing it to recirculate; Blades should be turning clockwise.
- Keeping garage doors closed during very cold weather will help to prevent water pipes above the garage or in garage walls from freezing.



Meter Pits

Meter pits are manholes or vaults that house meters and protect them from the elements.

Meter pits are usually located in the front yard, and are sometimes installed in the sidewalk. The pit is a round metal plate about 12 inches in diameter, and usually says “Water Meter” on it. Most meter pits are also fitted with an Automatic Meter Reading device fitted through the lid, although some AMR devices are installed underneath the lid, and some are mounted on the sides of buildings. Meter pits are not designed to support the weight of a vehicle. Meter pits installed in driveways or parking areas often experience damage that can be very expensive to repair.

The meter, meter setting and the AMR device belong to the property owner. Lakehurst Water will maintain

and repair these devices when they fail due to normal wear and tear, but it is the property owner’s responsibility to protect them from damage from lawn mowers, traffic, freezing and vandalism.

Meter pits must comply with specifications in Lakehurst Water’s Engineering Standards, including requirements dealing with proper materials, frost lid and the pit being set at ground level, or flush with the pavement if installed in a sidewalk or driveway. Never place any objects on the meter pit lid. Do not plant bushes or other plants within 2 feet around the meter pit lid (grass is OK). Do not install walls, fences, mailboxes or other obstructions within 5 feet of the meter. Never place a fence or a wall between the water meter and the street.

Meters that are inside of a building must be kept accessible by the owner or resident. Do not place any items within 5 feet of an indoor meter. If you wish to enclose the meter in a finished space, leave an access panel or door 36 inches wide that extends from the floor to the gate valve above the meter.

Water Main Replacement Program continues in 2014

The District will replace approximately 1,300 feet of six-inch cement asbestos water main on S. Zang Street between W. Quincy Ave. and W. Stanford Ave. This project is needed due to the number of breaks experienced on this section of pipe in the past five years and overall age of pipe. Pipe was installed in 1975.

The project was bid and approved by the Lakehurst Board of Directors at its’ regular scheduled meeting in July. The project was awarded to BT Construction. The cost of project is \$293,198.

It is important to note that this and all other construction replacements are funded from Lakehurst customer monthly payments as the District has no property tax for water and sewer utilities.

The project will begin sometime near the end of September and should take approximately four to six weeks to complete. If you should have any questions regarding this project, please contact the District.