

## Wipes Clog Pipes!

Many items are marketed as flushable including disinfecting wipes, baby wipes, diapers, paper towels/napkins, and toilet bowl scrub pads, however, they do not breakdown in the wastewater system. Unlike toilet paper, which breaks down easily, some of these materials contain plastic and other nonsolubles. Instead of disintegrating, the materials settle in sewer mains, get tangled in pump impellers or the treatment facilities' bar screens, and can cause sewer backups into streets, businesses, and homes. Properly dispose of the items into the trash, only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed.

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*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

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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.



## Graywater Reuse in the Works

In Colorado's dry climate, every drop of water counts — which is why the recent passage of House Bill 1044 is good news, as it's the first step in allowing the use of graywater.

Graywater is water discharged from showers, clothes washers and most household sinks. Under current Colorado law, graywater may be captured and reused only in areas where the local governments have adopted an ordinance approving the use of graywater. To date, several counties including the City and County of Denver have not adopted such an ordinance.

By definition, graywater does not include water

from toilets, urinals, kitchen sinks, dishwashers, or non-laundry utility sinks. Graywater also must be collected in a manner that minimizes household wastes, human excreta, animal or vegetable matter, and chemicals that are hazardous or toxic.

House Bill 1044 authorizes the Colorado Department of Health and Environment to develop regulations to ensure graywater can be reused safely. The bill also allows local governments to use those rules to establish graywater use within their jurisdictions. Currently, the health department is taking public comment while officials develop those rules. Denver Water supports this legislation and is working closely with the health department to make sure state rules address the importance of keeping graywater completely separate from the drinking water system.

Rough estimates suggest that for every 1,000 graywater systems installed in single-family homes, 50 acre-feet of water could be saved each year. One acre-foot of water serves about 2.5 households per year. For more information, visit [www.denverwater.org/AboutUs/WaterLaw/Graywater](http://www.denverwater.org/AboutUs/WaterLaw/Graywater)

## Save Thousands of Gallons of Water by Replacing Old Showerheads



Replace an old showerhead with a WaterSense model and save almost 3,000 gallons of water a year.

As part of Energy Awareness Month in October, the Environmental Protection Agency is asking people to "Shower Better" and install WaterSense-labeled showerheads to save water, energy and money.

Replacing an old showerhead with a WaterSense one can save a household more than \$70 per year in energy and water costs, and conserve the amount of energy needed to power a home for 13 days every year. For more information, visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense).