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# STRATMOOR NEWS

Stratmoor Hills Water, Sanitation & Fire Protection Districts

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Volume 26 Issue 2

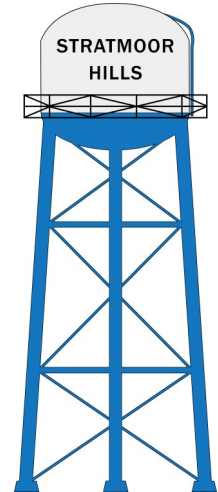
February 2024

## FRIDGID WEATHER CREATES CHALLENGES

The sub-zero temperatures that lasted several days in mid January, created several challenges for our field crews. It is a known fact that extended periods of cold weather can cause water mains to break. One theory for this is when groundwater freezes and expands, it can double the force on underground pipes, exacerbating cracks and grinding weak spots. The concept is known as “frost loading.”

On January 16th, at 3:00 am, a water break was reported on South Chamberlin and crews responded immediately. It was 6 degrees below zero outside and water quickly froze along the street, making it difficult to access valves. Once the water main line was isolated, crews found that the frozen asphalt and dirt “ground frost” made it difficult to access the break.

An excavator with a jackhammer attachment was used to break through the asphalt and ground frost below and the water main was finally located and repaired. **The district would like to thank all of our residents impacted by this event for your patience and understanding. You are the best!**



See us on the website at:  
[stratmoorhillswater.org](http://stratmoorhillswater.org)



Call 811 at least a few days before you start any digging.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

### Cold Weather Reminder

Please make certain any exposed water pipe is well insulated or drained. Garden hoses should be disconnected from faucets and sprinkler lines should be drained. It is also helpful to know the location of the water shut off valve to your home in case a pipe does break. It is usually located in the basement or crawl space, on a wall facing the street. - **If you have a broken water pipe and you are unable to isolate it, please contact our office as soon as possible at; 719-576-0311 and a service representative will be happy to provide assistance at any time.**

### BILLING SCHEDULE (est.)

**Bills Mailed - February 5, 2024**

**Payments Due - February 15, 2024**

**Late Notices Mailed - February 16, 2024**

**Shut Off Payments Due - February 27, 2024**

**Shut Off Day - February 28, 2024**

**Meter Read Date - February 29, 2024**

If you believe you may be late making your payment, please call us to make arrangements to avoid the \$30.00 delinquent fee.

STRATMOOR HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION - <http://www.stratmoorhills.org/contact.php>

### SEWER PROBLEMS

**If you have problems with your sewer line, please give us a call first so that we can determine if it is your service line or our main line. If it is in your line, we will notify you promptly. If it is our problem, we will take care of it immediately.**



## MORE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FIRE STATION

- The 2024 Steven E. Carter Fire Academy began on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 – in honor of former Firefighter Steve Carter. It is a tradition in the Fire Service to name recruit classes after former members to show honor. There are approximately twelve (12) recruits going through this class and they should be trained, tested, and certified in six (6) months.
- We are extremely proud of our volunteers – they cover four (4) 12-hour shifts a month, attend 3-4 trainings monthly and are always willing to pull extra duty for community events. The Fire Department started as a Volunteer Fire Department and continues the tradition of having volunteers. A lot of the young men and women that come through our doors are eager and excited and some leave us for career jobs with bigger departments down the road. If you see a bunch of cars at the Fire Station on any given day of the week – please know they are working hard to ensure they are trained to help when needed.

### Prevention and safety messages to share

#### *Make an escape plan*

It is important to have a plan when there are children in the home. Children sometimes need help getting out of the house, and they may not know how to escape or what to do unless an adult shows them.

- **Have a plan for young children who cannot get outside by themselves.** You will need to wake babies and very young children and help them get out. In your plan, talk about who will help each child get out safely.
- **Know two ways out of every room.** It is important to find two ways out of every room in the house, in case one exit is blocked or dangerous to use.
- **Choose a meeting place outside the home.** Children should know what to do when they hear a smoke alarm and there is no adult around. Help them practice going to the outside meeting place. Teach them to never go back inside a building that is on fire.

#### *Keep children safe from fire and burns*

Some children are curious about fire. There are simple steps you can take to keep you and the people you love safer from fire and burns.

- **Keep children 3 feet away from anything that can get hot.** Space heaters and stove-tops can cause terrible burns. Keep children at least 3 feet away from stoves, heaters or anything that gets hot.
- **Keep smoking materials locked up in a high place.** Never leave cigarette lighters or matches where children can reach them.
- **Never play with lighters or matches when you are with your children.** Children may try to do the same things they see you doing.



**Stratmoor News** is published monthly by the Stratmoor Hills Water, Fire Protection and Sanitation Districts. For questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Kirk Medina, at 576-0311. The Stratmoor Hills Water, Fire Protection and Sanitation Districts are governed by an individual, elected Boards of Directors. Currently, the members for each of the three Boards are: Robert Colgrove—Chairperson/President, James Pesicka—Vice Chairperson/President, John Willcox—Secretary/Treasurer, Cindy Dent—Director, and Richard Dull—Director.

Board elections are held in May of odd-numbered years. Board meetings are typically held on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Fire Station (2160 “B” Street). Meeting agendas are posted at the Water District office (1811 “B” Street), the Fire Station and at the Stratmoor Elementary School (200 Loomis Avenue). If you would like more information about the Districts, please contact Kirk Medina at the Water and Sanitation Districts at 576-0311 or by e-mail at [kirk@stratmoorhillswater.org](mailto:kirk@stratmoorhillswater.org) or Dottie Barrett for the Fire Protection District at 576-1200 or by e-mail at [mail@shvfd.com](mailto:mail@shvfd.com)