

Temporary Water
Steps and Information
A Resident View
May 2009

This information on being hooked up and taken off of temporary water below has been put together from the collective experiences of residents like yourselves. **It is not official documentation from any government agency.** If you have questions regarding temporary water, please contact the City of Minneapolis Water Works, Maintenance Division at 612-673-5600.

- 1) Yellow piping will have been placed along the sidewalk in front of your home and your neighbors.
- 2) The outdoor spigot will be the source water to your home when hooked up to temporary water. **PLEASE OPEN UP THE WATER VALVE IN YOUR HOME TO THE OUTSIDE SPIGOT IF YOU CLOSED IT FOR THE WINTER.**
- 3) Your property is hooked up to temporary water
 - a) At the time they connect the temporary water, they will also shut off the Water Stop Box. This is generally located in the boulevard. It is about 4” in diameter and somewhere in-line with the blue line on your sidewalk.
 - b) The flyer will indicate how long you will be without water during the transfer to temporary water. It is generally not a long time.
 - c) You will not need to be home; unless they have trouble with the Water Stop Box. ‘Trouble’ may include (1) not able to shut off the water. (2) Stop box is not accessible. If this occurs they will contact you and you will need to meet them at within the next couple days.
 - d) If there are no issues, you do not have to have any involvement.
 - i) A gray hose will be connected from the yellow plastic pipe on the sidewalk to a “Y” attachment on your outside water spigot. This gray hose will be how your home gets water while it is on temporary water.
 - ii) The other opening in the “Y” attachment can be used for your gardening hose.
 - e) Many of our homes have very old water services lines which reduces the normal water pressure. When put on temporary water some residents have reported the water pressure is higher since it is not going through the service line during this time. If your normal water pressure is low and the faucets have not had their washers replaced recently, they may leak when the pressure becomes full on temporary water.

- f) Temporary water comes from a fire hydrant the yellow piping is connected to.
 - g) When you are hooked up to temporary water you can still run a sprinkler system or water from your garden hose.
- 4) What happens when you are removed from temporary water?
- a) No notification is given when you are removed from temporary water.
 - b) The time it takes to switch from temporary water back to permanent water is very short.
 - c) You may be on temporary water for some time after the water main relining has been completed. You are not connected back up to the relined water main until the water main is chlorinated, sampled and the water meets the drinking water standards.

Note:

If you are considering replacement of your service line (pipe from house to main in the street) with new one it can be less expensive while the road is torn up. The Hennepin County Transportation Senior Project Manager, Don Schafer, can tell you when your pipes were installed/fixd. Since the homeowner is responsible for the water service from the property to the water main, they are responsible for the pipe from the water main to the stop box and from the stop box to house. Sometimes, the pipes from the stop box to house have been done, but not the stop box to the main. If this has not been done, it may be time to do it now, while the street is torn up.