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| Rawls Springs Utility District  January – February 2012  Volume 3, Issue 1 | | | C:\Documents and Settings\Myrtle\My Documents\My Pictures\Microsoft Clip Organizer\MC900297983[1].wmf | |
| ***Office Number: 601-268-2248***  ***Board of Directors***  *Diane Zachary – President*  *Allen Haralson*  *David Bowles*  *Jimmie Kirkham*  *Robbie Parish*  ***Office Manager***  *Linda Bray*  ***Maintenance***  *Luke Ellis*  *Allen West*  ***Operator***  *David Draughn*  ◊◊◊◊◊◊  ***Rawls Springs Utility***  ***District is a member***  ***of the Mississippi Rural Water Association***  ◊◊◊◊◊◊ | We at Rawls Springs Utility want to hear from our customers. What are we doing right? What would you like to see us do in the future? Do we have an employee you think should be complimented on doing their job? In other words, let us know how we are serving you, the customer. | Please either give us a call at 601-268-2248 or drop us a note when you pay your monthly bill. It is our desire that we serve you in a professional, competent manner. To that end, we have supplied our maintenance men with uniforms to make them more noticeable and to | | assure you that when you have someone in your yard or at your door, it is actually an employee of Rawls Springs Utility. We also have a web-site for easy updates on boil water notices and office closings. Next time you are on line, check us out: www.rawlsspringsutility.com. |
| Keep Your Meter Clear | | | |
| Meters are read during the last week of the month. It is important that you keep access to the water meter open so it can be clearly seen by the reader. This means do not park your car/truck over the meter, keep trash cans etc. off the meter. Also, if you have | dogs, especially aggressive dogs, keep them up so it is safe for the reader to enter your yard. If the reader cannot see or have access the meter, the reading will have to be estimated. This may not reflect an accurate reading and the current or future | | month’s billing may be considerably higher than you expect. If you have to put your dog up, please let us know a number by which you can be reached and our maintenance men will call you in advance to let you know when to put your dog up. |
| What About Trash Service? | | | |
| Household trash is a constant problem and several customers have wanted to know who to contact for trash services. Rawls Springs Utility does not provide trash service. Enviro Inc. is the trash | pick-up provider in the Rawls Springs area. Their telephone number is: 877-586-9955, ext 107. Enviro will provide the 96 gallon container for the weekly trash pick-up. All Rawls Springs Utility customers | | are encouraged to utilize this service. The price is certainly reason-able and much safer than burning trash, especially during dry weather. Please give Enviro a call if you are not already a customer. |
| Fun Facts | | | |
| There is no mention of Adam and Eve eating an apple in the Bible. The | human heart beats over 100,000 times a day. The Statue of Liberty’s | | index finger is as long as a small car. |
| How Do Snowflakes Form? | | | | |
| *Rawls Springs Utility District is dedicated to providing safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all of the State and Federal Government Standards. In addition, the system maintains a sewage system that disposes of wastes in an effective and efficient manner.* | While we don’t get a lot of snow here in our part of Mississippi, everyone loves snowflakes. A snowflake begins high in Earth’s atmosphere and if the snowflake is very lucky, it might reach the ground. A snowflake begins when a tiny dust or pollen particle comes into contact with water vapor high in the atmosphere. The water vapor coats the tiny particle and freezes into a tiny crystal of ice. This tiny crystal will be the “seed” from which a snow-flake will grow. The molecules of water that form each tiny crystal naturally arrange themselves into a hexagonal (six-sided) figure. The result is a snowflake with six sides or arms. These six arms reflect the hexagonal structure. Ice crystals are “minerals” because they have this natural hexagonal crystalline structure. The new snowflake is heaver than the air around it and it | begins to fall. As it falls toward Earth through humid air, more water vapor freezes onto the surface of the tiny crystal. This freezing is very systematic. The water molecules of the vapor arrange themselves so that the hexagonal structure is repeated. It grows larger and larger as it falls, enlarging the hexagonal pattern. Although all snowflakes have a hexagonal shape, other details of their structure can vary. These variations are produced by different temperature and humidity conditions of the air through which the snowflake falls. These different shapes have an unlimited number of variations, long needle like arms, wide flat arms and thin branching arms. There is no guarantee that a snowflake will make it to the ground. It will only happen if air temperatures are below freezing all the way to the ground. If the | | snowflakes pass through a thin warm layer of air they experience partial melting. When they exit the warm air they will refreeze on the way down in the form of a tiny ice pellet. This is how sleet forms. If the snowflakes pass through a warm layer of air that is thick enough to melt them completely, then land on a cold Earth surface, the result could be freezing rain. The weather men have a challenging job. If they forecast snow, they need to determine when a moisture laden air mass will pass over an area. They also need to determine if the temperature high at the snowflake forming elevation will be below freezing and de-termine if the temperatures will allow the snowflake to fall to the ground. Finally, they have to know the conditions on the ground to determine if the snow will accumulate or melt. It is no wonder we don’t have snow and why it is always a treat when we do. Or at least, the children consider it a treat! |
| Oh No! Frozen Pipes! | | | | |
| We still have plenty of time to experience very cold weather. Frozen pipes are never any fun and can cause expensive damage as well as inconvenience. To help prevent frozen and burst pipes take the following actions:  Insulate any exposed pipes with insulation tape, | newspapers, towels or blankets. This will keep the pipes from freezing. Keeping a trickle of water flowing from an indoor faucet can help keep pipes from freezing during a cold spell. But, don’t waste the water, save it and use it for other purposes. |  If your pipes burst inside your house, turn your house valve off to prevent further damage. Then make repairs yourself or call a plumber. We do not recommend using blowtorches to thaw frozen pipes. We recommend insulating | | your pipes to prevent this from happening. Rawls Springs Utility can shut your water off in case of an emergency. However, we do not make repairs beyond the meter connection on the customer’s side of the water meter. |