



Winter Warning

by Tom Merrill



The winter season brings a reminder that fire hydrants on your property need to have continual free and clear access for use in an emergency situation. This necessitates ensuring that all exterior fire fighting equipment be placed on your facility snow removal schedule.

Another potential hazard to constantly watch for this time of year is to monitor the temperature of enclosed doorway vestibule areas in buildings with fire sprinkler protection. In a “wet” system without anti-freeze protection, there is a potential to have the fire sprinkler pipes freeze. The resulting pipe breakage can result in a substantial monetary loss. If you perceive a temperature issue in a vestibule, block open one of the interior doors to allow some of the hallway heat to enter the enclosed area. Careful use of small space heaters has also proved to be an effective option.

