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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

04-07

January 29, 2004

Contact: Charles G. Sturcken (718) 595-6600

Reminder: Snow-Blocked Fire Hydrants Can Hamper Fire Fighting

During this period of extreme cold and heavy snow storms, Commissioner Christopher O. Ward of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is requesting that New Yorkers assist City workers by removing snow from hydrants in front of their homes.

"When you sweep the snow from sidewalks in front of your homes," said Commissioner Ward, "please don't block the hydrant. Also, if you notice that a fire hydrant is snowed under, please shovel the snow aside. The severe weather we've experienced in the past several weeks has put a strain on City workers who are deployed to critical situations, such as frozen pipes, snow blocked streets and local fires. We greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide."

If you notice a fire hydrant in your neighborhood is leaking or broken, please call the City's 24-hour Citizens Service Hot Line at 311.

MORE INFORMATION

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Environmental Protection
Communications &
Intergovernmental Affairs

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