



Winterizing Your Irrigation System

The process of winterization is meant as a preventative measure to help reduce any possible freeze damage to irrigation components. Here we provide some basic steps, for guaranteed results we recommend having a professional winterize your system for you.

Basic steps include:

1. **Locate the Double Check or shut off valve.** If your irrigation is a Choate USA system, your Double Check or Shut-off valve should be in a valve box next to your water meter. If you have a Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB) you will need to shut off the Shut-off valve **and** the PVB.
2. **Turn the water off.** This is done at the Backflow Prevention Device / Double Check or Shut-off valve for your irrigation system
3. **Open the Petcocks.**
4. **Manually open all of the valves in the system.** This is done to release water pressure in the system.
5. **Turn your controller off.** (See the owner's manual.)
6. **Drain or blow out the water of any irrigation components that may freeze.** PVB's are especially prone to freezing and failure to properly winterize them will often result in damage. Placing heat tape, a hot box, or a hot box rock on the PVB will help but cannot guarantee that freezing will be prevented.

