



Are YOU prepared?

Be Water Wise, WINTERIZE!



Every winter, mountain homeowners suffer from the destruction, frustration, and financial burden caused by freezing and bursting water pipes. If you're leaving for more than three days, turn off your water by following these general guidelines. Every system is different. If you have specific questions, please contact a plumber.

1. BEFORE COLD WEATHER HITS:

- Seal off all air leaks with caulk and insulate.
- Wrap exposed pipe with pipe wrap, foam jackets, or heat tape. Insulating products are available at your local hardware or building supply center.

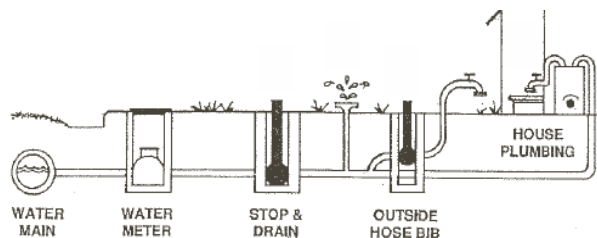


2. TURN OFF WATER TO YOUR HOUSE:

Shut off the stop and drain valve. This will stop the cold water supply and drain water from the house system (except for sewer traps, water heaters, etc.—see Section 3).

DO NOT SHUT OFF WATER AT THE METER!

- Make sure valve is completely turned off. If not closed correctly, the water will continue to feed to the house and/or flow out the drain valve port.
- Generally, the stop and drain valve is located on your service near the house (see diagram).
- Mark your stop and drain valve with a tall stake so it is easily located in deep snow.
- Put your stop and drain valve key where it can be easily located in case of emergency.



3. DRAIN INDOOR PLUMBING:

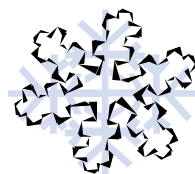
Flush toilets and open faucets in the house to remove water from the interior lines.

- After the water has stopped, turn off the faucets. If water does not stop, go check the stop and drain valve to make sure it is shut off all the way. Close the faucets after the water is drained.
- Pour biodegradable anti-freeze into all toilets and sinks to displace water in the toilet bowls and drain traps.
- If you choose to drain your hot water tank, turn off the gas or electric supply to the water heater and open your hot water drain valve, usually located at the low point of your hot water pipes.

4. SHUT OFF AND DRAIN IRRIGATION SYSTEM:

The DWP requires irrigation systems to be shut off and winterized from **November 1st to April 1st.**

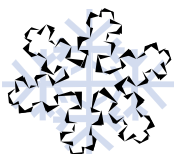
- Set the automatic irrigation controller to the "OFF" setting.
- Turn off the irrigation system's stop and drain valve. Drain all irrigation components that might freeze.
- Disconnect garden hoses from hose bibs.



5. ALTERNATIVE METHOD:

Instead of draining your home water system, you may heat your home.

- Leaving your heat at 45 to 55°F does NOT always ensure your pipes will not freeze when temperatures drop during extreme weather conditions. Winter storms may cause power outages, which disables most heating systems, resulting in frozen pipes.



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT—www.bbldwp.com/winterize
QUESTIONS? CALL 909/866-5050

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