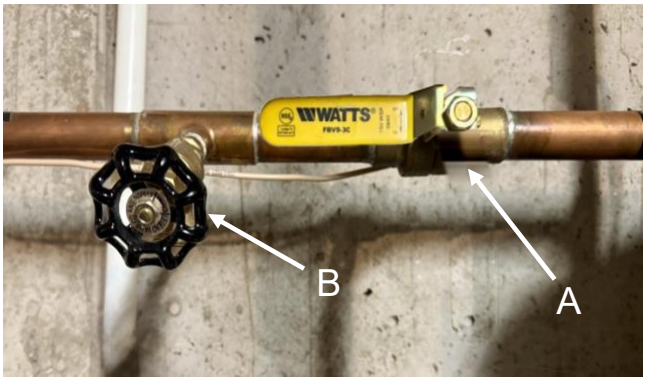
Shutting Off Water to Sprinkler System

Step 1

In your basement find the water line that runs outside to the sprinkler system. It will run up towards the ceiling and out of the house.

In this line there will be a shut off valve (A) and a drain valve (B).



Close the shut off valve first. Valve handle will be perpendicular to the pipe (pointing down in this photo).

Now open the drain valve. Place a bucket under the drain valve as up to a gallon of water will drain out of it.



Step 2

Go outside to where the water line exits the house and runs through the check valve and down into the sprinkler controls (under a cover, buried in the ground).

There will be a drain valve located near the ground.

Open this valve up to let the water drain from the pipe. Since no water will drain from the pipe below this valve it is recommended that you temporarily place some insulating material (old blankets, sleeping bags, etc.) to insulate this section of the pipe from the expected sub-freezing temperatures.



Step 3

The inside drain valve (B, above photo) should be closed after drain to prevent blowback during sprinkler blowout. An open inside valve may also prevent adequate blowout because the air will go inside rather than through the sprinkler plumbing outside.

Step 4

After the blowout is complete, open drain valve (B).