

HOW TO DRAIN YOUR BACKFLOW PREVENTER

1. Turn Off The Water Supply

- a. Locate the main water supply, usually in the basement, and shut off the water to the backflow preventer
- b. By turning the valve perpendicular to the pipe, it shuts off the water

2. Open Test / Pet Cocks

- a. Most backflows have 2-4, they require a flat head screw driver
- b. To open them turn them horizontal
- c. Water may spray out (that's normal), let them fully drain

3. Open the Ball Valves

- a. There are two of these
- b. Turn the handles to a 45* angle (halfway between open and closed to prevent the from holding water and freezing

4. Drain the Lines & Manifold(s)

- a. Outside, at the base of the copper line under the backflow there should be a cap, unscrew and let water drain
- b. Inside, where the main water supply is located, use a bucket, open copper cap and drain the line
- c. Outside, in every irrigation box there should be a ball valve at the end of the manifold, open the ball valves & let drain
- Wrap the backflow preventer with an insulated bag. And insulate the copper pipes with pipe insulation.
- · This completes the draining process for the backflow.
- To open the backflow repeat these steps backwards.
- Photo above shows backflow open & on. Red lines show it in the off position.

THIS DOES NOT COMPLETE THE FULL SPRINKLER BLOWOUT PROCESS.