



City of South Lyon Water & Wastewater Department

Winterizing outside spigots and irrigation backflow preventers

Spigots

Any spigot exposed to winter weather will need to be winterized to avoid freezing lines and property damage. Winterizing spigots is the property owner's responsibility. Hoses must be removed and left off of the spigot to winterize. Anti-siphon/frost free hose bibbs can be winterized easily by turning off the supply valve inside the home or business and draining the outside spigot. Older spigots that have hose bibb vacuum breakers (HBVB) installed on them require an extra step depending on the type installed. Discussed below are the two most common types. Hose bibb vacuum breakers with a pin sticking out where the hose would thread on, simply pull down on the pin until the water stops dripping. Hose bibb vacuum breakers with a black ring around the body can be winterized by pulling up on the black ring to allow the water to drain out. It is very important to drain the water from whatever type of HBVB you have every year to avoid freezing pipes and damage to your home or business.

Irrigation

Pressure vacuum breakers (PVB) and reduced pressure zone (RPZ) assemblies exposed to the weather also need to be drained of water for the winter. Again, the valve inside the home or business should be shut off and all the water removed from the assemblies. Irrigation companies will typically take care of this when they blow the lines out for winter. Properly winterizing plumbing exposed to winter weather is very important and should be done annually to avoid damage to your home or business.

Below is a link to a very informational "how to" video on the subject.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EK-LtP2RTb0&feature=youtu.be>

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