

Winterizing and Starting up the Irrigation System

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Winterizing the Irrigation System

Insulate exposed pipe

Turn water valve off to the site

If you blow out the system:

- Be careful – wear appropriate eye protection and stand away from sprinkler heads
- PVC – not above 80 psi; Polyethylene – not above 50 psi
- Remove flow sensor first
- Do not blow the system from the backflow or pump
- Do not leave manual valves open after blowout
- Turn on each zone beginning with the furthest zone
- Slowly allow air into the main and lateral lines if possible

Open and close backflow isolation valves to ensure water is out of the system - leave valves semi open

Open test cocks on backflow device

Turn off irrigation controller

If the rain sensor has cup or bowl, remove the cup or bowl and cover the sensor

Turning the System on in the Spring

Remove insulation from exposed pipes (optional)

Close isolation valves and test cocks on backflow device

Close all isolation valves on the mainline

Reinstall the flow sensors

Slowly open mainline valve allowing water to reenter the system

Check mainline, backflow, and valves for leaks – make repairs

Turn on irrigation controller and activate rain sensor; ensure settings are appropriate for spring irrigation

Turn on each zone to evaluate leaks and breaks in each station – make repairs as needed