

Winterization Instructions for RP Style Backflow Preventer

Step 1:

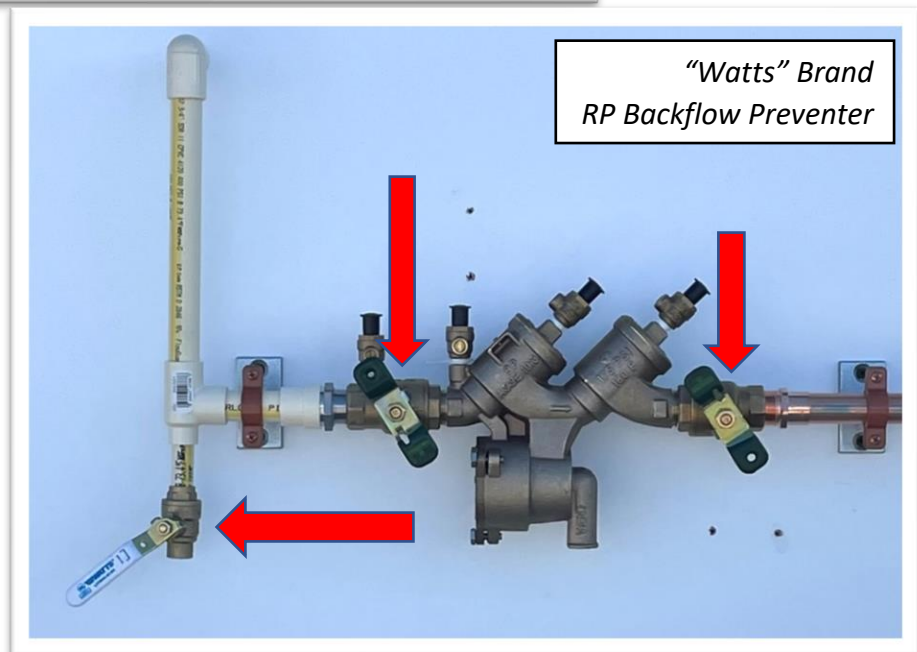
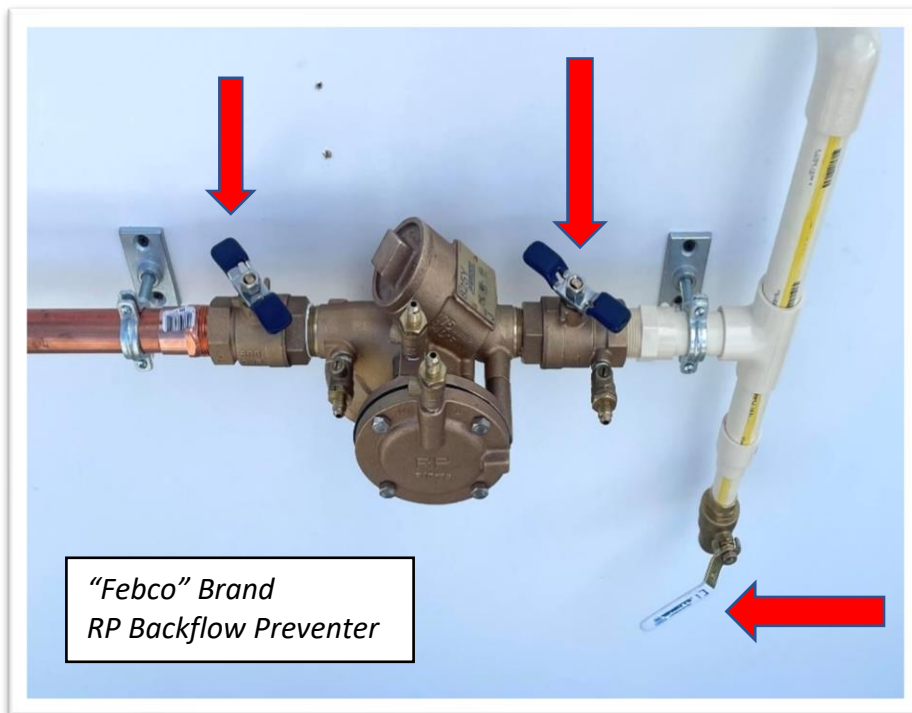
- 💧 To begin the winterization process, first locate the water shut off valve for the sprinkler system in the basement. This ball valve is near the water meter and will have a colored handle, most commonly yellow, red, or green.
- 💧 The water is turned “OFF” when the ball valve handle is turned **perpendicular** to the pipe it is attached to. The photo on the left shows the water in the “OFF” position. The photo on the right shows the water “ON” to the sprinkler system.



Note: Some City Jurisdictions require a drain on the shut-off line in the basement. This line must also be drained. Place a bucket under the drain and open the drain valve so it is parallel to the line to which it is attached. Leave the drain open and proceed to Step 2.

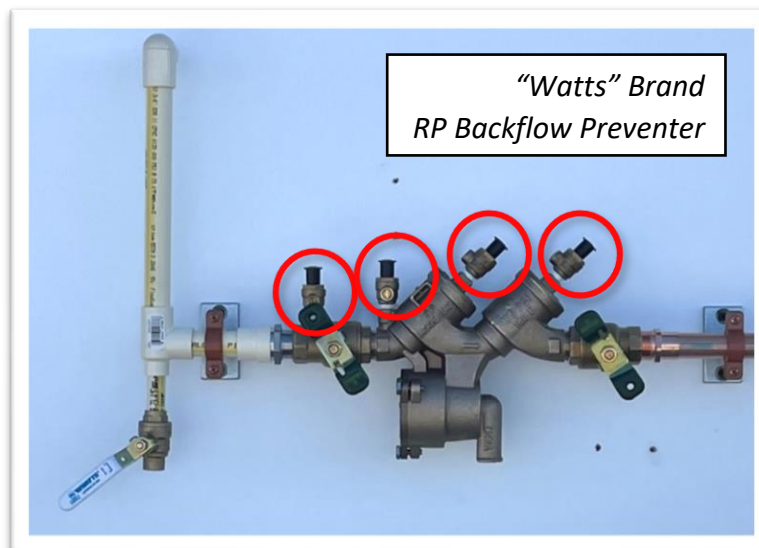
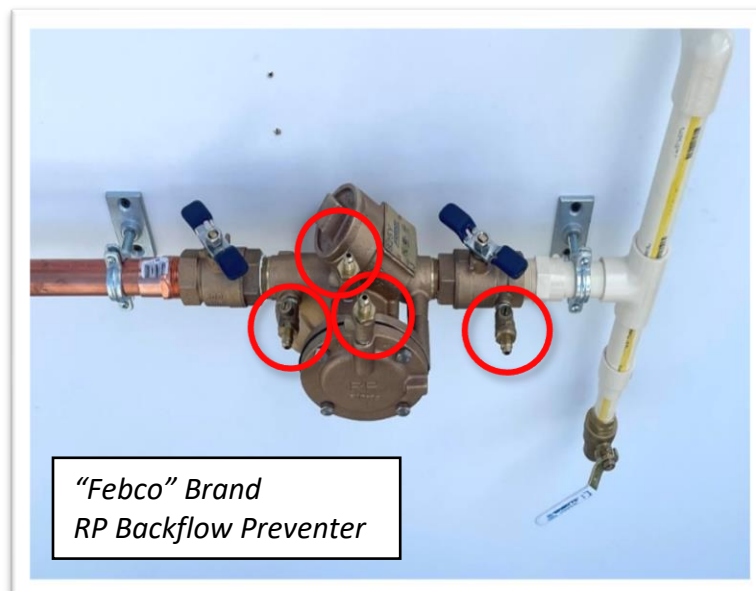
Step 2:

- 💧 Before going outside to continue the winterization process, you will need a small flat tip screwdriver. Proceed to the exterior of the home and locate the RP backflow preventer on the outside of the home. Most commonly, it is located on one of the front corners of the house or in the back.
- 💧 There are (2) different brands of RP backflow preventors our plumbers use. See photos of both types below.
- 💧 Turn the (3) ball valves on your backflow preventor so they are each at 45-degree angles as shown by the red arrows in the pictures below.



Step 3:

- After the (3) ball valves have been turned to 45-degree angles (Step 2), locate the (4) nipples on the RP backflow preventor.
- Each nipple should have a spot to turn with a flat tip screwdriver.
- Open the nipples using the screwdriver and turn each nipple so the screwdriver slot is parallel with the end of the nipple.
- On the pictures below, the (4) nipples on each RP backflow preventor are circled in red.



Step 4:

- 💧 The last step in the winterization process is done at the sprinkler control clock. The clock is typically in the garage but could also be located outside or in a basement.
- 💧 Manually run a program with the water stilled turned off to the system. This allows the valves located in the ground to open, air to enter the pipes and the water in the pipes to seep into the ground.
- 💧 To manually start your clock and run one cycle:
 1. Turn the dial on the sprinkler clock to “Auto/Run.”
 2. Press and hold the right pointing arrow (located below the LCD screen).
The LCD screen should flash “started” and show zone number (1) and a run time. This has started your sprinkler system and will allow all the valves in the system to open and allow the water to drain out of them.

IMPORTANT NOTE: After the clock has run through the entire system for one cycle, make sure the sprinkler clock is in the “OFF” position for the remainder of the winter.

