



Hose Bibs - Winterizing

When the season turns cool, it's time to winterize your outdoor faucet. This is probably one of a long list of fall chores, but resist the temptation to skip it. If you don't get around to winterizing your outdoor faucet before the first frost, the water in your pipes could freeze with disastrous (and expensive) results.

Fortunately, it can be pretty quick and simple to winterize an outdoor faucet. Just follow this easy step-by-step guide.

1. Start indoors, in your basement. Locate the water shutoff valve that is nearest to the outdoor faucet. Turn it off. (This valve will need to be turned back on in the Spring when temperatures are consistently above freezing)
2. If the tap is an older model, you might need to open an indoor drainage port. Be sure you're equipped with a container to catch the water which will run out. Remember to close this port when finished.

3. Take off the hose and remove any spray nozzle(s), dry thoroughly. Drain each hose completely to avoid damage from water freezing and expanding.
4. Turn on the outdoor faucet and let any remaining water drain out. Leave in the "on" position for the winter.
5. Coil hoses neatly, making sure there are no kinks. Then store in a sheltered spot outside of direct sunlight, such as your garage or garden shed.



New homes built in MN after 2015 should have a frost free faucet.

Owner / CPI

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