Step 4. Valve and Test Cock Winter Positions

1. Leave the interior drain open over winter.
2. Leave both ball valves and all four test cocks open at 45 degrees.
3. Replace the air injection port cap.
4. Tighten relief cover bolts.
5. Tighten #2 check cap.

Colorado Backflow Prevention Association
Visit us: www.backflow.org

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Or visit the
American Backflow Prevention Association
www.abpa.org

This brochure provided to the people of
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This pamphlet is designed to be a guide to help prevent damage to backflow prevention assemblies due to winterization techniques and practices. CBPA cannot be responsible for any damage which may occur to any backflow prevention assembly, irrigation system, plumbing system or component thereof as a result of using these guidelines.

Winterizing Residential Irrigation Backflow Assemblies

Reduced Pressure Assembly
Step 1. Shut off Water & Drain RP

1. Close the sprinkler supply valve tight.
2. Open the interior supply drain; this may be a ball valve with drain or a boiler drain.
3. Do not close the main shut-off. Closing this will shut off the water to the house.
4. Maintain ball valves in open position.
5. Open all four cocks. Some water will drain from relief valve.
6. Remove cap from downstream air port.
7. Allow water to drain from RP and piping.

Step 2. Drain #2 Check & Relief Valve

1. Loosen or remove #2 check cover until water drains from check body.
2. With all test cocks open, loosen all bolts on relief valve cover. Some water will drain.
3. Remove one of the lower bolts.
4. Thread that bolt into the threaded hole on the back of the relief valve body until the diaphragm breaks free.
5. Allow remaining water to drain from relief valve.

Step 3. Attach Compressor & Purge Water from System

1. Close the #2 ball valve.
2. Attach air compressor to downstream air port.
3. Set the first station on the sprinkler timer to “Run.”
4. Turn on the air from the air compressor.
5. Using the sprinkler timer, run each zone until only air comes out of the heads.

NEVER INJECT AIR INTO A BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY!