

## HOME TIPS: water shut off

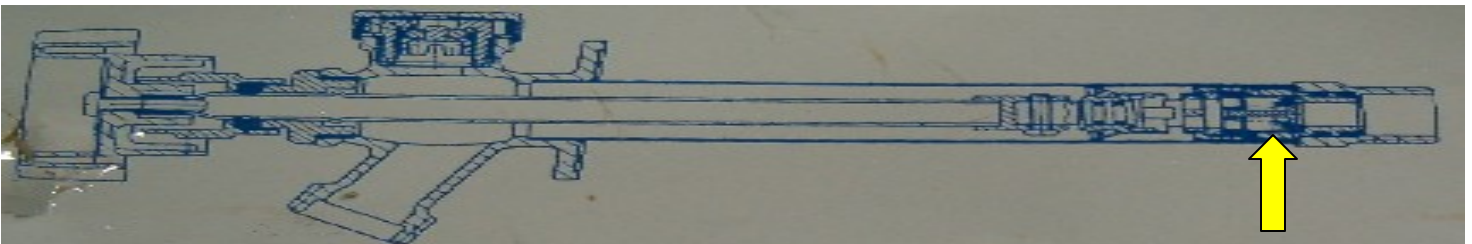


EXTERIOR



INTERIOR

Now that the outdoor temperature is consistently going below the freezing mark during the night, I would like to remind everyone that the valves which supply water to your outside hosebibs (taps for garden hose) should be shut off for the winter season. Don't forget to open your hosebibs and drain any excess water left in the piping after the valve(s) have been shut off from the inside. Failure to do so could lead to freezing of water, which **could rupture your piping**. This in turn **causes leakage and damage**, which can be expensive to repair.



FROST FREE HOSEBIB

Some of you may have “frost-free” hosebibs. This design is such that the valve closes on the heated side of the dwelling to prevent freezing. Often, there is no dedicated or separate water shut off valve for this, as it is considered not required. These units are typically labelled by the manufacturer on the ‘handle side’ or can be identified by a ‘bulb’ where the valve is.

Also, any underground sprinkler/irrigation systems should be shut down and winterized for the season. This task is usually done by a professional, as all of the underground piping needs to be purged of water.

*Best regards,*

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