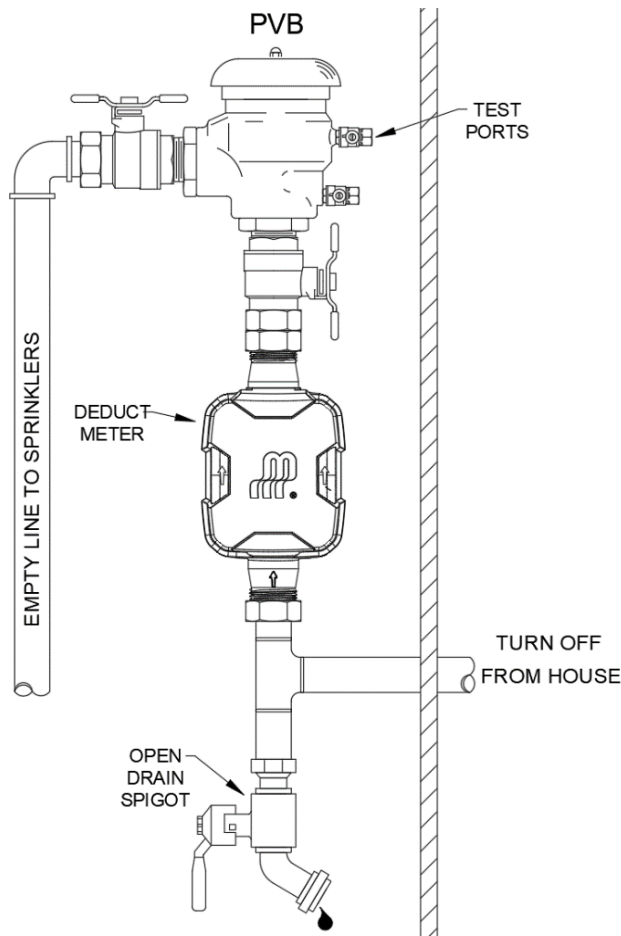




General guidelines for winterizing deduct meter & backflow systems.



If you have a deduct meter and/or backflow preventer (Pressure Vacuum Breaker, or PVB), it is important to properly winterize it to avoid damage due to water freezing and expanding inside the system.

Your deduct meter and/or backflow system may look similar to the one shown on the left. Below are some simple guidelines to follow to help make sure your system is winterized. Note that these are only suggested guidelines, and it is the customer's responsibility to ensure their system is properly winterized.

If you are uncomfortable winterizing your system yourself, have a licensed backflow tester or sprinkler contractor winterize your system for you.

1. Make sure that the water is turned off to any outside pipes.
2. Empty the line before the PVB by opening a spigot or cap and allow the water to drain out. Leave the spigot partially open to let any moisture drain during winter.
3. Empty the line after the PVB by first opening any valves and allowing water to drain out, then flush the line with compressed air. Depending on your system, this may be done in several stages. (**Note:** *If the deduct meter is placed after the PVB, do not exceed 100 psi when flushing line, as this may damage the meter.*)
4. After the system is free of all water, turn the valve handles to a 45-degree angle (half-open, half-closed). This indicates that the system has been winterized, and allows any moisture to drain out during the winter.