

## Where is the Water Shut Off to your Home Located?

Do your family members know where water can be shut off to your home? If there's a water emergency, you will need to react quickly. You cannot afford to waste precious minutes searching for the shut-off valve when there is leak or a line break gushing water

Every home, apartment and business should have a valve that turns the building's water on or off. The shut-off valve is part of the buildings private plumbing and should not be confused with a water meter. If your property does not have a main shut off valve please consider having one installed in case it is needed in an emergency situation.

This valve is typically referred to as a *House Valve*.

## Locating the Water Shut Off House Valve

The house valve is located where the water supply enters the home.

After the water passes through the City installed water pipe to the valves and meter, the pipe runs to a location next to the outside wall of the house. That location is what is known as the main shutoff valve to your home.

This valve is usually found outside of your home under your main hose bib. It can sometimes be found in the basement or on an outside wall in a utility area of the house.

Your house main shutoff valve allows a full flow of water through the pipe when it's open. Turning off or closing this valve cuts off the water supply to the entire interior of your house. Always turn the valve clockwise to shut off the water.

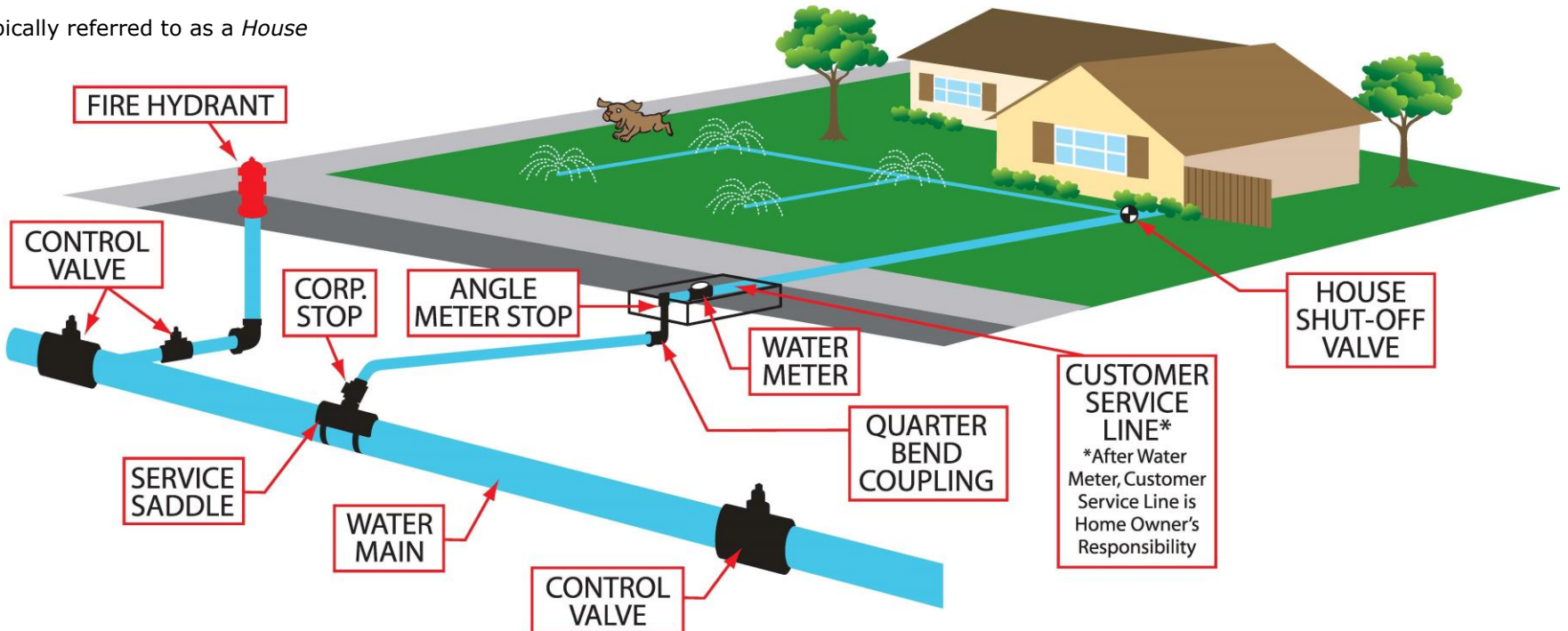
## Shutting Off Other Valves

Locate the valve you want to turn off. For a faucet or a toilet, look for the plastic or chrome-plated stop valve along the pipes running to the fixture. Sinks have one valve for hot water and one valve for cold water.

Turn the valve clockwise. Usually, you can do this by hand, but use a wrench or pliers if it is too tight.

Turn the valve counterclockwise to turn the water back on.

## Typical Residential Water Service Lines





Irrigation Valve

House Valve or Gate Valve

### Types of House Valves

The main shut off valve for your home is usually one of two designs:

#### Gate valve:

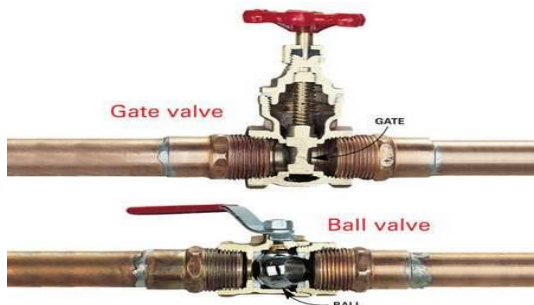
Gate valves are very reliable and last for years, but they become difficult to turn after not being turned for years.

If you have not closed or opened your house valve for some time, do it now. Better to find out that you now if you can turn it off with your bare hands than to wait until there is several inches of standing water.

#### Ball valve:

Houses with plastic or copper main water pipes leading into the house may have a full-flow ball valve.

This valve is open when the handle is aligned with the pipe. To close it, turn the handle clockwise 1/4 turn so that it's at a right angle to the pipe.

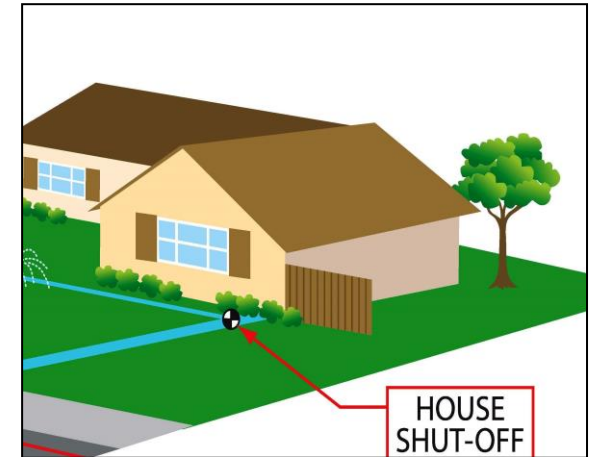


### Maintaining House Valves

It is good practice to exercise your house shut off valve at least twice a year. Ensure there are no obstructions blocking the valve from easily accessing it. Check the handle to the valve to insure it is not damaged or missing.

If you need your water shut off for plumbing work or in the case of an emergency and your main shut off valve does not work, contact the City of Fresno Water Division at 621-5300 to request a shut off of water at the city's connection.

# FINDING YOUR HOUSE WATER SHUT OFF VALVE



#### City of Fresno Water Division

Call (559) 621-5300 or 621-CITY  
Email: [information@water.fresno.gov](mailto:information@water.fresno.gov)  
[www.fresno.gov/water](http://www.fresno.gov/water)

Call for Spanish or Hmong translation