

# How to: Locate and Operate Your House Valve

It is important to know the location of your valve and how to shut the water off to your home or business if there is an emergency. In the event of an emergency, such as a leak in the home, you will want to turn off the water supply as soon as possible to prevent water damage to your property.

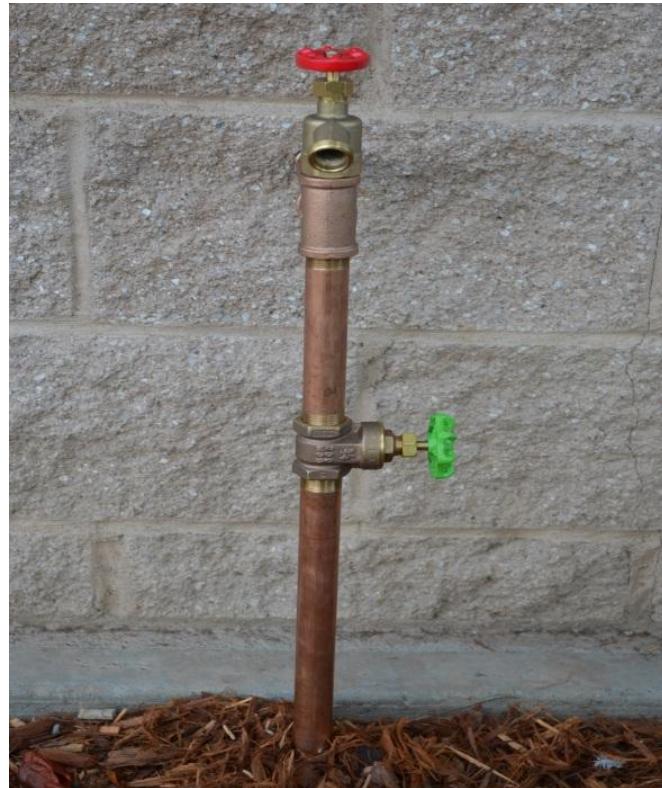
## Locating your house valve:

- Your house valve is typically located on the outside of your home or business. It may be in the front, on the side or in the back yard.
- Look for an outside faucet next to your home with a pipe coming up from the ground.
- Located on that pipe between the ground and the faucet is a valve. This is the house valve.
- Typically, the house valve will have a wheel or a straight handle for turning.

## Operating your house valve:

Your house valve can be one of two types: a **gate valve** or a **ball valve**.

- A **gate valve** is operated by turning the wheel clockwise until the water is off. Be careful not to overturn the valve or it may break in the closed or open position.



The above photo shows a typical gate valve set up (the valve handle is green)

- A **ball valve** is operated by turning the handle a quarter turn clockwise until the water is off.



The above photo shows a typical ball valve set up (the valve handle is yellow)

- To verify the water is off, turn on a faucet. If the valve is working properly, the water from the faucet should stop.
- To turn the water back on, either turn the gate valve counterclockwise or turn the ball valve a quarter turn counterclockwise.