

## How to Cap Sprinkler Heads



### Why would I cap a sprinkler head?

Over time your landscape will change - plants will grow, playsets may be added or removed, or a shed may be built. You may even remove a patch of turfgrass from your lawn resulting in unneeded sprinkler heads. Being able to cap a sprinkler head ensures the water is only used where it's needed, keeping your system efficient.

### How do I cap a sprinkler head?

**Step 1:** Isolate the sprinkler head you want to cap and determine if it is located at the end of the zone's line, or an upstream neighbor. Follow our guidance below depending on the location of the unwanted head:

#### If it's the LAST sprinkler head on the line...

**Step 2:** Dig a 6-8" deep hole around the next, upstream sprinkler head. This will expose the sprinkler body connection to the irrigation system.

**Step 3:** Cut the pipe past the tee fitting of the next upstream sprinkler head. Leave just enough space to cap it. Use PVC glue to attach an appropriately sized end cap on the pipe.

**Step 4:** Remove the unwanted sprinkler head by unscrewing it from the pipe.



#### If it's NOT the last sprinkler head on the line...

**Step 2:** Dig a 6-8" deep hole around the sprinkler head you want to cap. This will expose the sprinkler body connection to the irrigation system.

**Step 3:** Unscrew the sprinkler head from the piping that connects to it.

**Step 4:** Install an appropriately sized cap or plug to stop water from flowing through the pipe once the head is removed.

*Note: Apply plumbers tape for a tight seal.*

**Step 5:** Turn the zone ON to inspect for leaks. If there is no sign of leaking, you can bury the exposed pipe with soil.

**Disclaimer:** Due to Bozeman's climate, exercise caution when capping a sprinkler head that is located at the end of the line. If not repaired properly, water may become trapped when winterizing your system, which could cause pipe damage when freezing. When completing this repair, it is recommended that you contact a professional if you are unsure about the sprinkler's relative location on the zone OR if you feel uncertain on how to complete this repair process.