

Accessing Main Water Valve to Shut-off Water to Home

First this disclaimer: I am not a plumber and have no real plumbing expertise. This document just includes some photos of location and accessing the water valve at my home in Whiffletree in the event that you experience burst or leaking pipe inside your home and need to shut-off the water to prevent further damage.



Location of Main Water Valve

The main water valve is usually in front of your home between the sidewalk and street. In my case it is just to the left of the walkway from my front door (when facing my home) and between the sidewalk and street. Your valve may be in a different location. I would suggest that you go out now and uncover your water meter valve location so that you can quickly get to it. If unsure where it is located, you can use a broom handle to poke around in the snow near the street. When you strike something hard, you can sweep the snow off to reveal the water meter cover.

The green rectangular cover is to access the sprinkler control valve if you need to shut it off. No tool needed.

Removing the Water Meter Cover to View the Valve:

First the tool to remove the water meter cover is shown in the 2 photos below. This is a special tool that you need to buy at a hardware or home supply store, i.e., Home Depot or Lowes.



You remove the water valve cover by inserting the tool into the keyhole in the cover as shown in photo below. You remove the cover by turning the tool counter-clockwise and lift the cover with the tool inserted. It may take a little maneuvering to get the cover off.



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Once the cover is removed, you will see pipe and meter as shown in the photo below. Refer to the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9YdzwnaMo> and a document that Plano recently sent out about turning off water, which you can find at <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/b3fd1119-5181-4d1f-8879-b7d1e9e20ec1?scope=all>.



Valve is open when the arrow is pointing at the meter. To close it, you need a wrench and turn this valve so that the arrow is pointed away from the meter.