System - Spring Start Up

When spring arrives and freezing temperatures cease, it's time to turn on irrigation systems and start watering again. However, when you do so, you should take a few very important steps to make sure you do not damage pipes or irrigation components. It is always best to hire a professional contractor. [1] We have provided a spring start-up guide below to help ensure your Hunter system is up and running with ease and efficiency.

1. Open the system main water valve slowly to allow pipes to fill with water gradually. If these valves are opened too quickly, sprinkler main lines are subjected to high surge pressures, uncontrolled flow and water hammer, which may cause them to crack or burst.
2. Verify the proper operation of each station valve by manually activating all zones from the controller [2] or using the app [3].
3. Walk through each station on the controller, checking for proper operation of the zone. Check for proper operating pressure (low pressure indicates a line break or missing sprinkler), proper rotation and adjustment of sprinkler heads, and adequate coverage. Check and clean filters on poorly performing sprinklers. Adjust heads to grade as necessary.
4. Reprogram the controller for automatic watering. Replace the controller back-up battery if necessary.
5. Uncover and clean the system weather sensor, if applicable.
6. For viewing and testing your network connectivity, use article here [4].

Remember, it is always best to hire a qualified professional contractor when performing tasks like Spring Start-Up. Irrigation contractors are experts in hydraulics, proper sprinkler system layout, plant watering requirements and soil types. Their skills will ensure a water-efficient system and years of trouble-free operation.

To get connected with an irrigation professional, use our Professional Contractor Referral Form [1]. We will put you in touch with a qualified professional near you that will ensure your Spring Start-Up is properly completed.