The orifice tubes on 2000 to 2007 Ford Taurus and 2000 to 2005 Mercury Sable can be changed. At first glance, the liquid line looks like one long hose. But unlike the liquid lines of the '80s and '90s, this hose has a fitting in the middle. The orifice tube is located at this fitting. Four Seasons part number for the orifice tube is 38639.

To replace the orifice tube, remove the washer and overflow bottle. The high side service port is on a pipe about eight inches long to make it easier for service. The fitting and orifice tube are near this pipe.

The fitting is covered with a protective rubber cover. The cover makes it hard to see the fitting and that the orifice tube is replaceable.

Push the cover back. Disconnect the fitting. Replace the orifice tube. Lubricate the new o-ring (# 24608), and torque the fitting to 18 lb-ft.