

(LOCAL NEWS BRIEF)

Cross Connection Control Notice:

LAWN SPRINKLERS – Federal, state, and local regulations require every municipal water supplier to develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive Cross Connection Control program designed to safeguard the public water supply.

Cross connections are sometimes protected by a valve called a backflow preventer. Backflow preventers are the property of the water customer and the responsibility lies with the customer for required annual testing and maintenance. The water customer must contract with a licensed tester to perform the required annual tests and any necessary repairs. Most plumbing contractors are certified to test backflow preventers. Note there are costs associated with testing and maintaining backflow preventers.

Backflow preventers may be found at any number of locations on your water systems. Typically, commercial & industrial customers will have backflow preventers just after the water meter and also on wet fire protection systems. Lawn irrigation systems or other water connections throughout their facilities may also have or require backflow protection.

Residential backflow preventers may be found on lawn irrigation systems, wet fire protection systems, hot water heating (boiler) systems, swimming pool fills, water features, etc. Backflow preventers may also be found or required if there is another water source on the site such as a well, pond, river, etc.

Lawn sprinkler systems will be starting up soon. Plumbing Code and state regulations require that your backflow preventer be tested annually and/or when a backflow preventer is relocated or re-installed every season.

The contractor hired to administer and oversee your local backflow program is Aqua Backflow. They specialize in cross connection control management. If you have or require backflow protection, you may be notified by them for compliance (testing, repairs, installations, inspections, or surveys). Aqua Backflow can be reached at 847-742-2296 with any questions. Aqua Backflow **does not** test, install, or repair backflow preventers.

Remember that Connection Control programs are designed to safeguard public health. We ask for your cooperation with our program, its enforcement, and any requests for information that come from Aqua Backflow or Utility staff.