



PERMIT CENTER

HANDOUT ON CROSS CONNECTION BACKFLOW

Informational Brochure

February 2023

Prepared by:

City of Auburn

Customer Service Center

Introduction

The City of Auburn is responsible for protecting Auburn's public water system. This is done by making sure that contaminants or any potential for contaminants from private property are not introduced into the public water system. As required by State Law (WAC 246-290-490) and Auburn City Code (ACC 13.12.040), the City of Auburn Cross Connection Control program ensures that all commercial businesses, irrigation systems and fire line connections have backflow prevention assemblies installed.

Who Needs Backflow Protection?

The Washington Administrative Code lists specific high hazard facilities, and the City cross connection control program requires each water service that does not serve a single family home to have premise isolation backflow protection, unless the single family home has an irrigation system. Premise isolation is backflow prevention installed at the incoming source to the property, usually at the water meter. Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly (RPBA) is most often needed. Double Check Valve Assembly (DCVA) can be used in some instances.

- | | |
|--|------|
| • New commercial building or updating existing commercial space | RPBA |
| • New multi-family building or updating existing multi-family building | RPBA |
| • Lawn irrigation system without chemicals | DCVA |
| • Fire sprinkler system without chemicals | DCVA |

What is Needed to Install Backflow Protection?

1. Apply for the Backflow permit online at www.MyBuildingPermit.com.
2. Once the City issues the permit, call the City Cross Connection Specialist (253-804-5009) to discuss the location of the device.
3. For a backflow assembly installation involving a new water meter, coordinate with the City to provide water for testing the backflow assembly. Backflow assembly must be installed and tested within 72 hours of installation of the meter.
4. Have the assembly installed by a plumber and tested by a Certified Backflow tester. A list of testers and installation details are included with this handout.
5. Call the City (253-804-5009) for inspection of the backflow assembly and approval of the permit. Please give the staff at least 72 hours' notice.

Your Ongoing Responsibilities for Backflow Protection

Backflow assemblies need to be tested annually to ensure that they are functioning properly to protect your health and to prevent contaminants and pollutants from entering the public water system. Each year, the City will notify you to perform the following tasks:

- Hire a certified backflow testing company to perform the annual test
- Submit the test results to the City.

For information about the companies who are registered to perform backflow assembly testing in the City of Auburn, please see the attached 2023 Registered Backflow Assembly Testers list.

If you have questions, please contact the City of Auburn Cross Connection Control Specialist at 253-804-5009 or 253-288-3169.