

Approved Authorized November 22nd, 2016

Backflow Prevention Policy

If a source of water supply exists on the premises of a customer of the ICR Water Users Association that is not accepted as an additional source by the Association or is not approved by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality a backflow prevention assembly is required. Annual letters will be sent to all customers on the BFP list requesting certification by a certified tester.

Approved December 27th, 2016

Backflow Letters - Initial, Annual and Second (2nd) Notice letters were approved. It was decided that 10 days after a 2nd Notice the customer would be in violation of our Backflow rule and subject to water being turned off. Turn-off will require approval by the Board.

Background

From the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manual (ADEQ website):

Backflow Prevention

Arizona has specific rules about backflow prevention. R18-4-215 provides specific information about the requirements for the Public Water System (PWS) if and when a prevention device is needed. This section provides only a brief summary and it is recommended R18-4-215 be reviewed by the operator.

The PWS is responsible for ensuring that a backflow-prevention assembly is installed whenever any of the following occurs:

1. A substance harmful to human health is handled in a manner that could permit its entry into the public water system. These substances include chemicals, chemical or biological process waters, water from public water supplies that has deteriorated in sanitary quality, and water that has entered a fire sprinkler system. A Class 1 or Class 2 fire sprinkler system is exempt from the requirements of this Section;
2. A source of water supply exists on the user's premises that is not accepted as an additional source by the public water system or is not approved by ADEQ.
3. An unprotected cross connection exists or a cross connection problem has previously occurred within a user's premises; or
4. There is a significant possibility that a cross connection problem will occur and entry to the premises is restricted to the extent that cross connection inspections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or on sufficiently short notice to ensure that unprotected cross connections do not exist.

18-4-215. Backflow Prevention

A. A public water system shall protect its system from contamination caused by backflow through unprotected cross-connections by requiring the installation and periodic testing of backflow-prevention assemblies. Required backflow-prevention assemblies shall be installed as close as practicable to the service connection.

B. A public water system shall ensure that a backflow-prevention assembly is installed whenever any of the following occur:

1. A substance harmful to human health is handled in a manner that could permit its entry into the public water system. These substances include chemicals, chemical or biological process waters, water from public water supplies that has deteriorated in sanitary quality, and water that has entered a fire sprinkler system. A Class 1 or Class 2 fire sprinkler system is exempt from the requirements of this Section;
2. A source of water supply exists on the user's premises that is not accepted as an additional source by the public water system or is not approved by the Department;
3. An unprotected cross-connection exists or a cross-connection problem has previously occurred within a user's premises; or
4. There is a significant possibility that a cross-connection problem will occur and entry to the premises is restricted to the extent that cross-connection inspections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or on sufficiently short notice to ensure that unprotected cross-connections do not exist.

C. Unless a cross-connection problem is specifically identified, or as otherwise provided in this Section, the requirements of this Section shall not apply to single-family residences used solely for residential purposes.

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F. Each backflow-prevention assembly required by this Section shall be tested at least annually, or more frequently if directed by the public water system or the Department. Each assembly shall also be tested after installation, relocation, or repair. An assembly shall not be placed in service unless it has been tested and is functioning as designed. The following provisions shall apply to the testing of backflow-prevention assemblies:

1. Testing shall be in accordance with procedures described in Section 9 of the Manual of Cross-Connection Control. The public water system shall notify the water user when testing of backflow-prevention assemblies is needed. The notice shall specify the date by which the testing must be completed and the results forwarded to the public water system.
2. Testing shall be performed by a person who is currently certified as a "general" tester by the California-Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association (CANV).