

Backflow and Cross-Connection Prevention

If you are a property owner with an in-ground sprinkler system or private well, state and local laws require that you install and maintain a backflow prevention device on your service line and have it inspected yearly by a certified tester.

What is backflow?

Backflow is a flow in reverse from the normal direction of flow in a piping system. It occurs due to a differential pressure existing between two different points within a continuous fluid system; a fluid of higher pressures flowing to a fluid of lower pressure. Backflow may occur due to either "backsiphonage" or "backpressure."

What is a cross connection?

A cross connection is any actual or potential physical connection between a "potable water" line and any pipe, vessel, or machine containing a non-potable fluid, solid or gas, allowing possible entry to the water system by backflow. This would include, but is not limited to, sewers, drains, conduits, pools, storage reservoirs, plumbing fixtures, or any other device. The non-potable or unapproved water supply system may contain contaminated liquids, solids, or gases, of unknown or unsafe quality. Bypass arrangements such as jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or changeover devices are considered to be a cross connection.

City and state requirements protect our community's water supply

Irrigation Systems

If you have or are planning on installing an irrigation system, you must first comply with Washington State Law (WAC 246-290), and City of Washougal Ordinance (13.40). These laws require that all irrigation systems have approved backflow protection. A plumbing permit is also required when installing an irrigation system. Without proper backflow protection, your irrigation system could endanger the health of your family, neighbors, and others in the community who are using the public water system.

Improper installation of a state-approved backflow prevention device or failure to meet testing requirements are grounds for termination of water service. The three state-approved backflow assemblies that follow are required to be installed per City of Washougal standards, and must be tested by a Washington certified tester upon installation and yearly thereafter:

- Pressure Vacuum Breaker Assemblies (PVBA)
- Double Check Valve Assemblies (DCVA)
- Double Check Detector Assemblies (DCDA)
- Reduced Pressure Backflow Assemblies (RPBA)

Note: The atmospheric vacuum breaker is the only backflow prevention device that does not require annual testing.

On-site water wells

If you have an on-site well and would like City of Washougal water service, you must first comply with Washington state law (WAC 173-160 and WAC 246-290), and Washougal Municipal Ordinance (13.40), before the city can install water service. Failure to comply with state and local regulations are grounds for termination of the water service. The following regulations must be met before water service begins:

If you choose to keep your well: Installation and testing of a state-approved reduced-pressure backflow assembly (RPBA), per City of Washougal Standards Specifications. This backflow prevention device must be protected from freezing.

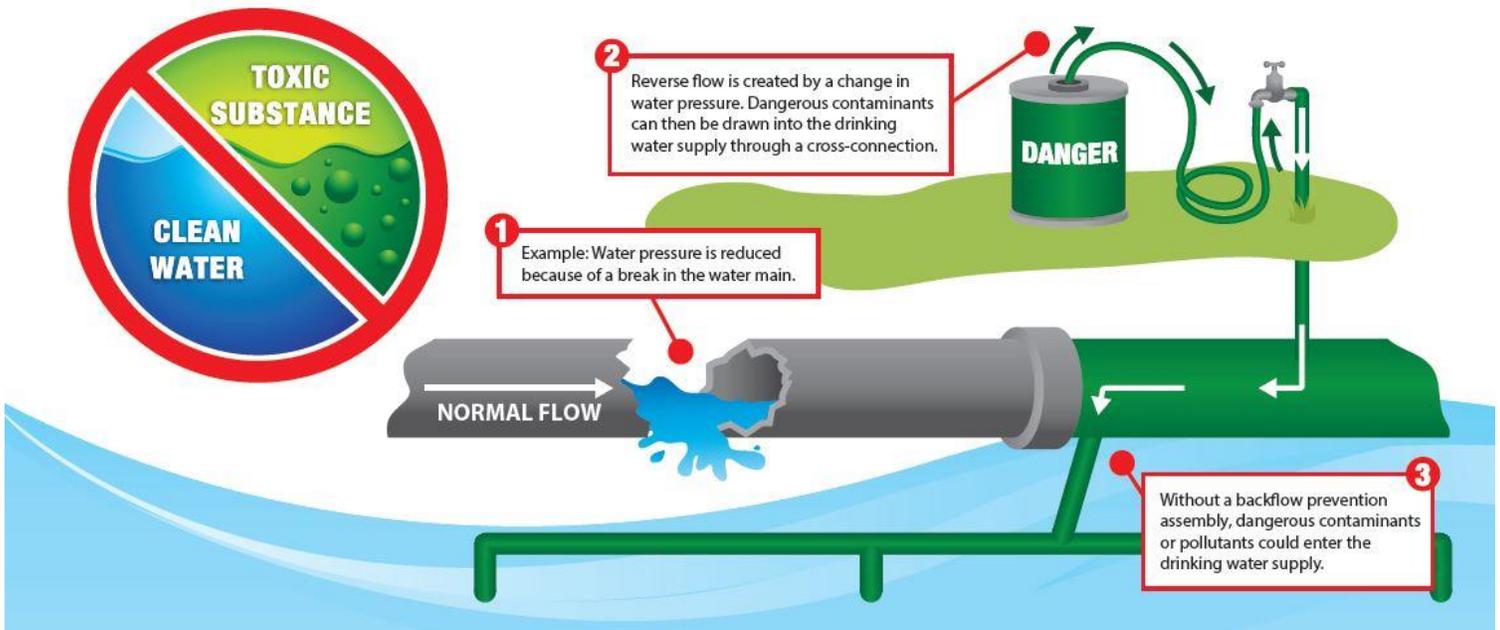
If you choose to abandon your well: Proper abandonment procedures, per Washington state law WAC 173-160, using a licensed well driller. Capping the well or pulling the pump is not proper abandonment and will require installation of a state-approved reduced-pressure backflow assembly device.

Questions about backflow and cross-connection prevention

If you have any questions concerning backflow installations, certified testers, or approved backflow prevention device please contact the Water Department by phone at 360-835-2662, or by e-mail Travis.Davis@cityofwashougal.us or Brian.Wilson@cityofwashougal.us

Backflow reports

Customers and testers can submit backflow test reports directly to the City by emailing: backflowtestreports@cityofwashougal.us





Washington State Certified Testers for 2016

The City of Washougal makes no representation regarding the abilities, performance, or quality of service of the testers listed below. Further, the City of Washougal does not assume or accept any responsibilities for the actions or performance of such testers. This list is provided merely for the convenience of our water service customers. Customers are required to use their own judgment with respect to contracting with these or any other testers.

Cert#	Company Name	Contact	Phone Number
B5229	1 Backflow Test & Repair	Rob Scott	(360) 907-5949
B4410	1 Day Backflow	Bob Vranken	(360) 772-2871
B0823	A & A Drilling	Gene Higgins	(503) 780-3823
B3722	A-1 Backflows LLC	Gino B Cantania / Nancy Catania	(360) 907-1519
B6295	AAA Backflow NW	Michael Wilson	(360) 263-4840
B4174	American Backflow Services	Mike Younce/Kyle Harms/Josh Blacker	(503) 289-1745
B4482	Andy's Backflow Service	Andy Jorgenson	(360) 513-6208
B1972	Aquatech & Associates	Russ Glaser	(360) 694-3629
B4133	Backflow By The Best	Dale Hammrich	(360) 606-0870
B4119	Barskey's Backflow	Richard Barskey	(360) 921-7172
B2530	Beacon Backflow	Art Sell	(360) 694-0587
B1129	Bruce Boylan BAT	Bruce Boylan	(360) 993-1772
B0594	C&E Lawn Sprinklers Inc.	Dale Wright	(360) 694-2035
B3726	Cascade Fire Safety	Ed Roy	(360) 695-9212
B3222	Certified Testing Services	Chuck W Massey	(360) 600-3273
B3400	Fire Services Plus	Doug Vandecoerving/Lance Hoff	(503) 848-2345
B5386	Forty Dollar Backflow	Delfino Sanchez	(360) 256-0706
B5665	Frontier Landscaping, Inc.	Shaun Schmitt	(360) 574-8979
B1063	JM Landscaping and Irrigation	John E Murphy	(360) 624-3209
B1573	Landscape Management & Services	John R Orefice	(360) 256-0706
B3723	Mr. Sprinkler	Jeff Lancaster	(360) 772-3396
B2213	Pagel's Landscape Maintenance	Steve M Pagel	(360) 931-4558
B5652	ProGrass Inc.	Frank Polak	(503) 682-6076
B3787	Ron Hendrickson BAT	Ron Hendrickson	(360) 448-8285
B3724	The Grounds Keeper	Todd Moser / Scott Mathewson	(360) 576-4119

Note: The testers on this list have demonstrated current State Certification and gauge calibration. You may use a tester not listed above, but verification of current registration and gauge calibration will need to accompany the test report. Visit http://www.instruction.greenriver.edu/wacertservices/bat/batname_certverification.asp to check a testers current certification status.