Protecting The City's Drinking Water

Venice, FL
City on the Gulf

As of October 1, 2018, the City of Venice Utilities Department will provide and perform the required testing and maintenance of backflow devices for all of our customers.*

GOOD NEWS!

The City Council recently authorized the Utilities Department to revise the Cross-Connection Control Program (CCCP) Ordinance to enhance protection of potable water and be more cost effective to the customer.

Previously, the customer was responsible to secure installation, testing, and repair services for their device at properties that require cross-connection control.

The Utilities Department will contract for this service on a large scale basis. Utilities staff will monitor and schedule the required services. This modification to our Ordinance helps streamline the process and reduces the costs for our customers.

**Some restrictions apply; fire sprinkler systems and the initial installation and testing for new construction are not included.*

WHAT DOES THE CITY PROVIDE?

- Installation of a backflow protection device and pressure relief valve, when required.
- Required testing and certification or replacement, depending on type of device.
- Required maintenance on applicable devices.
- Property surveys by staff and required tracking of certifications and cross-connection hazards.

WHY DO WE NEED CROSS-CONNECTION PROTECTION?

A Cross-Connection Control Program (CCCP) is needed to protect the Water Distribution System and the public's Potable Water Supply, as required by law.

There are many requirements for which the City must comply for the production and protection of potable water. Protection after the water has entered the distribution system is mandated through the Cross-Connection Control Program (CCCP) and Backflow Prevention rules set forth by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) under Chapter 62-555 of the Florida Administrative Code. These rules are a mandate imposed on all public water systems in the State of Florida and locally enforced by the Sarasota County Department of Health.

WHAT IS A CROSS-CONNECTION?

A cross-connection is any actual or potential physical connection between the public water supply and any other water supply system. A cross-connection occurs in a plumbing system when the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable (not fit to drink) source. Examples of non-potable watersources include a well, reclaimed water, cooling systems or irrigation systems. For the residential customer, examples of sources of non-potable water include irrigation systems fed from a well or reclaimed water.

(Continued on the reverse)

The table below shows categories of customers and the type of protection required.

TYPICAL TYPES OF REQUIRED RESIDENTIAL BACKFLOW PREVENTION					
	Irrigation Water Source				
Residential Connections	**Potable Water* Irrigation**	**Reclaimed Water Irrigation**	**Well Water Irrigation**	**Pond, Lake, River, etc. Irrigation**	**No Known Hazard or Cross-Connection**
Connections that are 1 inch or less. (4 floors or less in height)	Reduced Pressure (RP)	Dual Check (DuC)	Dual Check (DuC)	Reduced Pressure (RP)	None
Connections that are 1 ½ inch or greater. (5 floors or less in height)	Reduced Pressure (RP)	Double Check (DC)	Double Check (DC)	Reduced Pressure (RP)	Double Check (DC)

**When potable water is connected for irrigation use, the backflow device is installed on the irrigation service.*

All Non-Residential require a reduced pressure backflow prevention assembly (RP). (commercial and industrial)

(Continued from the front)

When a cross-connection occurs, the community's drinking water supply can become contaminated. A backflow preventer is required if the potential for a cross-connection exists because of the presence of another water system on the property.

Some examples for commercial customers are fire sprinkler systems, cooling systems, and medical or other equipment connected to any drain, conduit, pipe, or water supply.

WHAT IS A BACKFLOW PREVENTER?

A backflow prevention device is used to protect potable water supplies from contamination or pollution due to backsiphonage. The device will not allow water to flow backwards from the service to the distribution system.

The water distribution system is designed to maintain positive pressure in the system to the consumer. Sometimes, due to a line break or fire flow event, the pressure may drop and backflow may occur due to either **backsiphonage** or **backpressure**. This is why a backflow preventer is required.

Dual Check Backflow Preventer

Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer

THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM IS REQUIRED BY:

- Environmental Protection Agency, Safe Drinking Water Act
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection under Chapters 62-550 and 62-555 of the Florida Administrative Code Florida Administration Code.
- City of Venice Code of Ordinances, Chapter 74, Utilities, Article II, Water, Division 1, Generally, Section 74-75, Cross-Connections.
- Florida Department of Health, program approval by Sarasota County Department of Health Environmental Services, Public Water Section.

CITY OF VENICE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

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If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call 480-3333, Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 4pm.

Additional information is also available on the City's website at **www.venicegov.com**, within the Utilities section.