

BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL REGULATION

PART 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.01 Purpose

The specific purpose of this Regulation is to protect the District's Water System from contamination by Backflow from a Tapholder's internal plumbing system or separate water system through a systematic and ongoing program of Cross-Connection control based on Containment. The overall purpose of this Regulation is to assure the District's compliance with the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations. Nothing in this Regulation relieves a Tapholder from the Cross-Connection control requirements of any applicable plumbing code, which protects against Backflow within a Tapholder's Water System based on Isolation.

1.02 Authority

The following provides the authority for this Regulation:

- A. 25-1-114, C.R.S.
- B. 5 CCR 1002-11 (Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations)
- C. 32-1-1001(1)(m), C.R.S.

1.02. Applicability

This Regulation applies to all Non-Single-Family Service Connections to the District's Water System. This Regulation also applies to Single-Family Service Connections that pose a Backflow risk to the District's Water System similar to that of a Non-Single-Family Service Connection. The Cross-Connection Control Manual contains examples of such Single-Family Service Connections.

1.03. Cross-Connections Unlawful

It is unlawful for any person to make, install, maintain, or permit any Cross-Connection to the District's Water System, except in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.

1.04 Backflow Prohibited

Any Backflow into the District's Water System is strictly prohibited.

PART 2 – ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

As part of the District's written Backflow prevention program under 5 CCR 1002-11.39 (Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations), the District Manager shall, subject to approval of the Board, develop and periodically update the *North Weld County Water District Cross-Connection Control*

Manual (“Cross-Connection Control Manual”). The Cross-Connection Control Manual provides additional information on the requirements of this Regulation and how the District implements it.

PART 3 – DEFINITIONS

Approved RPZ Assembly means a reduced pressure zone Backflow Prevention Assembly that the District has approved for a specific application, as indicated in the Cross-Connection Control Manual.

Backflow means the reverse flow of any substance (including water) caused by back pressure or back siphonage.

Backflow Contamination Event means backflow into the District’s Water System that causes the water in a portion of the system to no longer meet the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations, or to present an imminent public health or safety risk.

Backflow Prevention Assembly means an in-line field-testable mechanical assembly installed at a water service connection or plumbing fixture to prevent Backflow.

Backflow Prevention Method means a method or non-testable device installed at a water service connection or plumbing fixture to prevent Backflow.

Board means Board of Directors of the District.

Certified Cross-Connection Control Technician means a person who possesses a valid Backflow Prevention Assembly tester certification from one of the following approved organizations: American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) or the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA). An expired certification is not valid.

Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations means the regulations at 5 CCR 1002-11, which assure the safety of public drinking water supplies in the State, and enable Colorado to assume responsibility for enforcing the standards established by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. §§300f-300j(26).

Containment means the installation of a Backflow Prevention Assembly or a Backflow Prevention Method at a service connection to the District’s Water System supplying a location, facility, premises, or consecutive water system, to prevent Backflow from a Cross-Connection into the District’s Water System.

Cross-Connection means a connection that could allow any substance (including water) that presents a public health or safety risk, to flow from a Tapholder’s Water System into the District’s Water System through Backflow.

Customer means the person or entity that receives water service through a District tap. The Customer may be the Tapholder.

District means North Weld County Water District.

District Manager means the manager of the North Weld County Water District, or his or her designee.

District's Water System means the District's distribution system, including all facilities under the complete control of the District, up to the point where the Tapholder's Water System begins.

Isolation means the installation of Backflow Prevention Assemblies or Backflow Prevention Methods at every Cross-Connection identified within a Tapholder's Water System to prevent Backflow from a Cross-Connection into the District's Water System.

Non-Single-Family Service Connection means any service connection other than a Single-Family Service Connection.

Single-Family Service Connection means:

- A single residential dwelling occupied by a single family and supplied by a separate service line; or
- A single residential dwelling comprised of multiple living units where a separate service line supplies each living unit.

Tapholder means the legal owner of the tap through which the Customer receives water service from the District. For purposes of this Regulation, this term includes a consecutive water system purchasing water wholesale from the District.

Tapholder's Water System means the facilities beyond the termination of the District's Water System immediately downstream of the meter, including piping, connection fittings, valves and appurtenances utilized in conveying water to points of use.

Variance Agreement means a written agreement between the District and a Tapholder that delineates the terms of a site-specific variance from the requirements of this Regulation.

PART 4 – REQUIREMENTS

4.01 Survey – Internal Connections

The District Manager shall survey all internal connections within the District's Water System and ensure that every Cross-Connection is controlled with an appropriate reduced pressure zone Backflow Prevention Assembly.

4.02 Survey – Service Connections

The District Manager shall survey all non-single-family service connections to identify Cross-Connections to the District's Water System. The District Manager may also survey any Single-Family service connection to address any Backflow concerns. The District

Manager shall ensure that all Cross-Connections identified through the survey are controlled as described in Section 4.04.

4.03 Notification of Tapholder

A. The District Manager shall notify any Tapholder whose service connection constitutes a Cross-Connection to the District's Water System. The notice shall order the Tapholder to install an Approved RPZ Assembly at each service connection to the Tapholder's premises in accordance with this Regulation.

B. The District Manager shall notify any Tapholder whose Approved RPZ Assembly is shown to be defective through testing required by Section 4.06. The notice shall order the Tapholder to repair or replace the defective assembly in accordance with this Regulation.

4.04 Cross-Connection Control

A. Within 90 days of receiving notice under Section 4.03, a Tapholder shall:

1. Contain the Cross-Connection by installing an Approved RPZ Assembly or by repairing or replacing a defective assembly; or
2. Remove the Cross-Connection.

B. Failure to comply with the requirements of Subsection 4.04 A. may result in the District suspending water service to the Tapholder in accordance with 5 CCR 1002-11.39 of the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

4.05 Installation

The Tapholder shall install the Approved RPZ Assembly in accordance with the requirements of this Regulation and the Cross Connection Control Manual as revised from time to time. In general, the Tapholder must ensure that the Backflow Prevention Assembly is installed immediately downstream of the water meter or as close to that location as the District deems practicable. Connections or tees between the meter and the Containment Backflow Prevention Assembly are strictly forbidden. The Tapholder shall maintain the Backflow Prevention Assembly in good working order.

4.06 Testing/Reporting

The Tapholder shall have the Backflow Prevention Assembly tested upon installation, repair, or replacement, and annually thereafter, unless, due to the nature of the connection, the District Manager requires more frequent testing. A Certified Cross-Connection Control Technician must perform all required testing. The Tapholder shall ensure that, within 30 days of conducting the test, the Certified Cross-Connection Control Technician reports testing results to the District by electronic upload to the District's online tracking platform.

4.07 Recordkeeping

The Tapholder must retain copies of reports for tests, repairs and retests, and replacements of the Approved RPZ Assembly for a minimum of three years.

4.08 Reporting of Cross-Connections and Backflow Contamination Events

A. Any person who becomes aware of a Cross-Connection that may require a Backflow Prevention Assembly to protect the District's Water System shall promptly report such connection to the District.

B. Tapholders shall report to the District any suspected or confirmed Backflow Contamination Event upon becoming aware of the event.

4.09 Site-Specific Variance

The Board may grant a site-specific variance from the requirement to install and maintain an Approved RPZ Assembly where a Tapholder shows that installation of an Approved RPZ Assembly is not suitable for the premises or facility, or otherwise creates an unreasonable burden. The Cross Connection Control Manual specifies the minimum requirements to qualify for a variance and the procedure for requesting one. If the Board grants a variance, the Tapholder must enter a Variance Agreement with the District that specifies the alternative Backflow Prevention Assembly or Backflow Prevention Method that the Tapholder must employ, as well as any alternative testing, inspection, and reporting requirements or other conditions the Board deems necessary to ensure compliance with this Regulation and the provisions of the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

PART 5 – DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICE

The District Manager may discontinue water service to any premises or facility for which the Tapholder fails to comply with the requirements of this Regulation, including where the District is denied reasonable access to determine compliance with this Regulation. Discontinuance of water service may be summary, immediate, and without written notice if the District Manager determines that such action is necessary to address an imminent threat to the District's Water System or its Customers.

PART 6 – RIGHT OF ENTRY

As a condition of water service from the District, the Tapholder shall ensure the right of entry to any properly credentialed District representative to survey Tapholders' premises and facilities for possible Cross-Connections to the District's Water System and to assess compliance with this Regulation or the terms of a Variance Agreement.

PART 7 – COSTS/FEES

The costs of complying with this Regulation or any Variance Agreement, including that for design, installation, maintenance, testing, inspection, reporting, and necessary repair and replacement of any Backflow Prevention Assembly or Method and related facilities, is the sole responsibility of the Tapholder. The District may collect fees for the administration of this Cross-Connection control program.

PART 8 – ENFORCEMENT

The District may enforce this Regulation to the fullest extent permitted by law and in accordance with any then existing enforcement policy, including but not limited to, the termination of water service and the imposition of fines, in the sole discretion of the Board.