

Q WHAT IS A BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM?

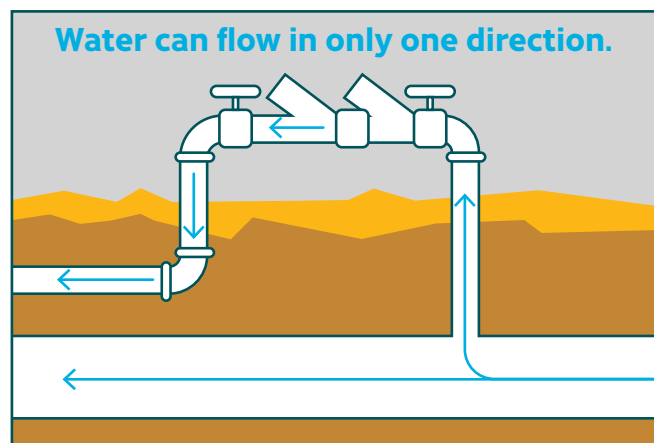
ANSWER

A mutual effort between water purveyors, property owners and certified testers to educate the public about backflow prevention requirements. These requirements ensure that established guidelines are followed to protect the public drinking water supply.

Q WHAT ARE WE PROTECTING THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY FROM? HOW?

ANSWER

Our goal is to protect the drinking water supply from pollution or contamination. We do this by keeping water that has already entered a facility from flowing back into the public water system. Backflow prevention assemblies are the devices used for this purpose.



Q WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN POLLUTION AND CONTAMINATION?

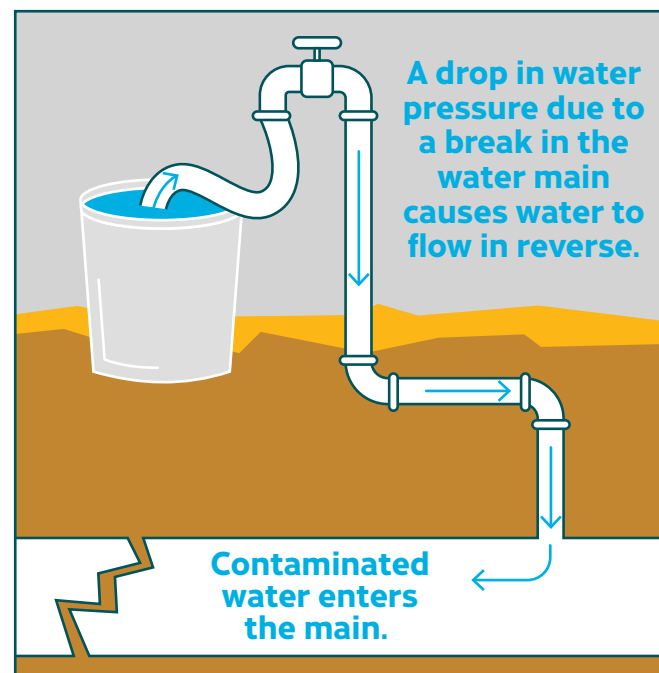
ANSWER

Pollution of the water supply does not constitute an actual health hazard, but the water may taste, smell, or look objectionable. Contamination of the water supply constitutes an actual health hazard, with the consumer being subjected to potentially harmful water borne disease or chemicals.

Q WHAT IS BACKPRESSURE?

ANSWER

The reversal of normal flow due to downstream pressure being greater than supply pressure.



Q WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BACKFLOW ASSEMBLIES?

ANSWER

The property/business owner must maintain and inspect all backflows to their business. The City of Goodyear sends a reminder regarding required annual testing for backflow prevention devices that protect the City's Water Distribution System. These are referred to as containment devices. State law requires that owners ensure that containment devices are tested annually by a certified tester. Most locations have additional backflows that protect water within the property. These are called isolation devices. Isolation devices are the sole responsibility of the property owner. Goodyear does not send reminders, collect testing results, or maintain isolation devices. However, Goodyear encourages customers to continue annual testing, perform ongoing maintenance, and retain documentation.

CONTACT INFO

For questions regarding building permits for the cross connection device program, visit:

goodyearaz.gov/business/development-center

For questions regarding Goodyear's Cross Connection Program and its requirements, visit:

goodyearaz.gov/government/departments/water-services/backflow-prevention



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT BACKFLOW PREVENTERS



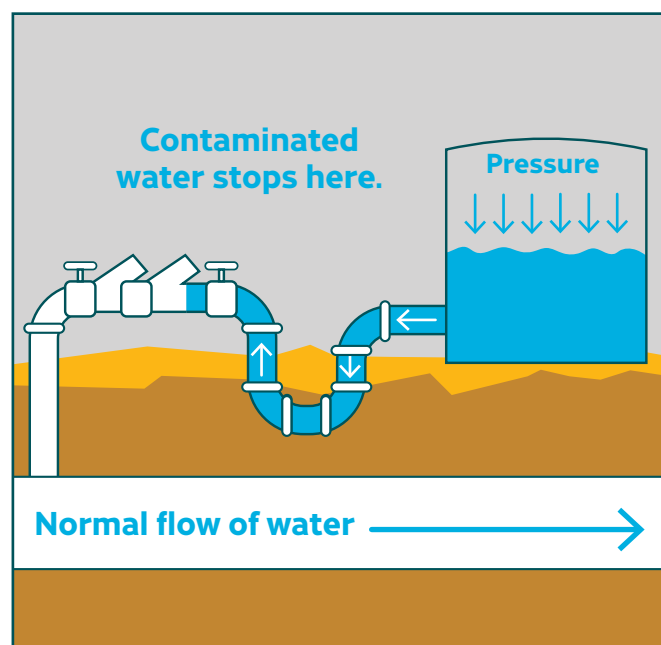
CITY OF GOODYEAR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT



Q WHAT CAUSES BACKPRESSURE?

ANSWER

Heating systems, elevated tanks, and pressure producing systems can create pressures in the customer's plumbing which exceeds the supply pressure. An example would be a boiler operating at 100–150 lbs. pressure (as in a commercial system). Since the city's water pressure is usually about 60 lbs. and water flows in the direction of least resistance, a back pressure would be created. The contaminated boiler water could flow into the drinking water supply.



Q WHAT IS A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY? WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE? WHERE SHOULD IT BE INSTALLED?

ANSWER

A backflow prevention assembly is a testable device which uses spring loaded check valves to prevent polluted or contaminated water from flowing backwards. Containment assemblies protect the public water supply. These shall be located outside the public utility easement and as close as possible to the water meter or connection point to the city water main.

Q WHY CAN'T I JUST USE CHECK VALVES AS A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY?

ANSWER

A check valve is not equipped with test connections to assure that the valve is preventing backflow. For this reason, the City adopted a list of approved assemblies:

fccchr.usc.edu/list.html

Q CAN ANYBODY TEST BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES IN GOODYEAR?

ANSWER

No, only testers certified through an agency approved by Arizona Department of Environmental Quality can test backflow devices. Certified testers must register online in [SAMS](#). While registering, testers must also provide a copy of their passing tester certificate.

Q WHO IS A CERTIFIED TESTER?

ANSWER

Any person trained to test a backflow prevention assembly. This person must pass a written and practical examination and have the certification required in City of Goodyear Ordinance 14-11-3.A.

Q IS IT NECESSARY FOR EVERY WATER CUSTOMER TO INSTALL AN ASSEMBLY?

ANSWER

No. State regulations exempt single family homes used solely for residential purposes from assembly requirements. All other service connections require backflow protection per City of Goodyear Ordinance 14-11.

Q IF MY BUILDING WAS RECENTLY MODIFIED TO MEET CITY CODE REQUIREMENTS BY INSTALLING BACKFLOW PREVENTERS INTERNALLY, DO I STILL NEED THEM AT THE SERVICE CONNECTION?

ANSWER

Yes!! Goodyear City Code requires containment assemblies on all non-residential water services.

Q WHERE DO I GET A PERMIT TO INSTALL A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY?

ANSWER

Permits are issued by the city's Planning & Development Department, 623-882-7957. Note that a separate permit is required for Fire Sprinkler Systems.

Q WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I INSTALL THE ASSEMBLY?

ANSWER

It is your responsibility to have the assembly tested when it is installed and each year thereafter. A copy of the test report showing that the assembly passed must be submitted electronically to bit.ly/testerportal or the QR code below. The city code requires that test records be kept for three years.

