Keep Your Water Supply Safe

For more information, contact your local water supplier

City of Hillsboro
503-615-6702
www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/water

City of Forest Grove
503-992-3115
www.forestgrove-or.gov

City of Beaverton
503-526-2413
www.beavertonoregon.gov

Tualatin Valley Water District
503-642-1511
www.tvwd.org

City of Tigard
503-639-4171 ext. 2603
www.tigard-or.gov

This pamphlet was prepared by:
JWC Backflow Interest Group

jwcwater.org

Irrigation Safety

Don’t let your irrigation system contaminate the water you drink!

Backflow Prevention Alternatives
Irrigation systems make watering lawns and gardens easier and save time, BUT, water that may be contaminated by weed killers, fertilizers or other contaminants found in lawns can be back-siphoned (backflow) into your drinking water. Irrigation systems not protected by approved backflow prevention assemblies could endanger the health of a household, neighborhood or community.

ALL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS...new or existing...MUST BE EQUIPPED with an approved backflow prevention assembly. Only properly installed, state-approved backflow prevention assemblies meet the plumbing code and provide health protection for your family and neighbors. Your local water utility can give you a free list of state approved assemblies and certified testers.

PLEASE NOTE:

• Freeze protection is recommended
• ALL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS supplied by public water systems REQUIRE A PLUMBING PERMIT before installation. All piping and materials upstream of (before) the backflow prevention assembly must be of a type which is approved by the Oregon Plumbing Speciality Code (OPSC).

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Non-testable device</th>
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<td>Highly versatile</td>
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<td>Requires annual testing by State of Oregon approved tester</td>
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| More sophisticated |
| More versatile |
| Requires annual testing by State of Oregon approved tester |

| Provides a higher level of protection |
| Requires annual testing by State of Oregon approved tester |

Installation requirements for each type of backflow prevention assembly
Backflow Assembly Installation Requirements

**AVB**...Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker
*One AVB required for each irrigation zone; no control valves (on/off valves) allowed downstream of (after) an AVB.
*Each AVB must be installed a minimum of six inches (6") above the highest point of water in the zone it serves.
*No chemical or fertilizer may be introduced into an irrigation system equipped with AVB’s.
*No pumps or backpressure on downstream side of (after) an AVB.
*Protect from Freezing

**DCVA**...Double Check Valve Assembly
*Only one DCVA required to serve the whole system; control valves can be located downstream of the DCVA.
*DCVA must be tested by a State of Oregon approved tester when installed, annually and when moved or repaired.
*No chemical or fertilizer may be introduced into an irrigation system equipped with DCVA’s.
*Protect from freezing

**PVB**...Pressure Vacuum Breaker Assembly
*Only one PVB required to serve the whole system; control valves can be located downstream of (after) the PVB.
*PVB’s must be installed a minimum of one foot (12") above the highest point of water on the system it serves.
*PVB’s must be tested by a State of Oregon approved tester when installed, annually and when moved or repaired.
*No chemical or fertilizer may be introduced into an irrigation system equipped with PVB’s.
*Protect from freezing

**RPBA**...Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly
*Only one RPBA required to serve the whole system; control valves can be located downstream of the RPBA.
*RPBA’s must be installed a minimum of one foot (12") above ground level.
*RPBA’s must be tested by a State of Oregon approved tester when installed, annually and when moved or repaired.
*In an RPBA equipped system, fertilizer and other agricultural chemicals may be introduced downstream of (after) the RPBA.
*Protect from freezing