



FREMONT Michigan

"NOW AND ALWAYS -- A Fine City • A Great Community"

Date: June 4, 2015

Dear Water Customer:

As part of our updated cross connection control program, we are requiring that any backflow prevention device installed on your service line be tested. These include vacuum breakers for your irrigation, backflow assembly on your boilers and any other device you may have. It is required that these tests will need to be performed by a certified tester who will fill out the enclosed form. You will find a list of certified testers on the backside of the form.

On completion of a satisfactory test, please send a copy of the form to my attention, 101 E. Main Street, Fremont, MI 49412. Completed forms should be returned within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

Brian Hettinger
DPW Supervisor
101 E Main St.
Fremont, MI 49412

In addition, you should have a hose bib vacuum breakers on any outside faucets. These are available at any hardware or home center. Members of our water department will be making contact to check your property for any possible cross connections. Our goal is to protect our water system from possible contaminants.

If for any reason you feel that you cannot complete the test within this time period, or have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me at 924-2101.

Thank you,

CITY OF FREMONT

Brian Hettinger
Superintendent of Public Works

Enclosed:

Public/common/Water Dept- Minc/Backflow ltr - 5.21.15

LIST OF CERTIFIED TESTERS

B&V MECHANICAL
400 32ND STREET SE
WYOMING, MI 49548
616-243-7222

LASKO PLUMBING MECHANICAL
375 BAYOU STREET
MUSKEGON, MI 49442
231-725-2777

AMERICAN PLUMBING AND HEATING
9730 MARSHALL ROAD
BIRCH RUN, MI 48415
800-949-4413

RITE-WAY PLUMBING AND HEATING
2083 WALKER COURT NW
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49544
616-791-0959

RICH AND HOWELL PLUMBING INC.
1580 CRESTON STREET
MUSKEGON, MI 49444
231-773-9102

MR. B'S PLUMBING
9746 KENOWA AVENUE
SPARTA, MI 49345
616-887-0552

NORTHWEST KENT MECHANICAL
4095 16 MILE NE
CEDAR SPRINGS, MI 49319
616-696-9026

RIVER CITY MECHANICAL
5325 6 MILE COURT NW
COMSTOCK PARK, MI 49321
616-785-1311

JEFF SEVIGNY
FREMONT, MI 49412
231-578-3512

Cross Connection Rules Manual

Fourth Edition
October 2008

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Resource Management Division

Rick Snyder, Governor
Dan Wyant, Director
www.michigan.gov/deq



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION
525 WEST ALLEGAN STREET
P.O. BOX 30241
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7741
517-335-2690

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will not discriminate against any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, martial status, disability, or political beliefs. Questions or concerns should be directed to the DEQ Office of Personnel Services, P.O. Box 30473, Lansing, MI 48909

4.7 Unapproved Devices or Methods

The following is a brief discussion of methods which are not approved to protect against backflow.

Single Check Valves – even when installed in series, have not proven to be effective protection against the hazards of backflow and are not approved except in very limited fire protection installations as outlined later in this manual.

Spool Connections – are sections or pieces of pipe that can be easily removed and replaced to physically separate or connect potable piping to non potable piping. This type of protection against cross connections was once used in the past to separate the public supply from a secondary supply. This type of separation is not an acceptable form of protection and should be replaced by an approved backflow preventer.

Swing Connections and 4-Ways Plug Valves – were historically used to separate the public supply from a secondary supply. However, these devices or methods are no longer approved as an acceptable means of backflow protection.

4.8 Testing of Backflow Assemblies

RPZs, PVBs and DCVAs are all testable backflow *assemblies* and must be tested by an approved tester at certain frequencies to ensure that they are in good working order. Any backflow preventer that is designed to be tested is considered an *assembly*, and all assemblies shall be tested at any of the following circumstances.

1. At time of installation or relocation. This includes reinstallation of seasonal assemblies that are taken out of service for a period of time and reinstalled.
2. After a repair.
3. At a frequency determined by the public water system in accordance with the approved local cross connection control program.

Items No. 1 and No. 2 are required by the Michigan Plumbing Code. Item No. 3 is a required element of the local cross connection control program which must state how often backflow assemblies shall be tested. A 1991 Memorandum of Understanding between the DEQ and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) clarifies that public water supplies under the jurisdiction of Act 399 shall establish the frequency for testing of backflow assemblies in their respective service areas.

Currently, all assemblies must be tested at least once every 5 years. However, effective January 1, 2011, the minimum frequency that backflow assemblies must be tested is going to be reduced from five (5) to three (3) years. All water systems must make certain that their approved cross connection control program reflects this change by 2011.

Local cross connection control programs may establish more frequent testing based on site specific conditions and the degree of hazard associated with any account. It is recommended that all high hazard situations and RPZs be tested annually. Any assembly that fails a test must be repaired and immediately retested by an approved/certified tester.

4.9 *Approved/Certified Testers*

In an effort to achieve uniform testing throughout the state, certain requirements must be met for any person to test backflow assemblies. Approved testers are classified into one of the following categories:

- General tester – is a person who holds a valid Michigan journey or master plumbing license and has passed an approved backflow tester class. General testers can test any assembly within any facility at any location.
- Restricted tester – is not a licensed plumber, but has passed an approved backflow tester class. Restricted testers can only test within their own home or at their normal place of employment.

Approved tester courses are conducted by the Michigan Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association, ASSE and several local plumbing unions. The courses have been sanctioned by the DLEG Plumbing Division, the State Plumbing Board, and the DEQ Water Bureau. These training courses are open to plumbing contractors, plumbing inspectors, and water utility personnel involved with cross connection control.

Water systems shall only accept test results performed by certified testers and must verify on the test report form that the individual who conducted the testing is certified. Water system personnel should report to the State Plumbing Board any person who may be testing assemblies that is not approved to do so.

The DEQ Water Bureau keeps a master list of all certified testers within the state. A list of certified testers organized by county may be obtained by contacting any DEQ District Office.

4.10 *General Backflow Preventer Testing Requirements*

Water system personal should be familiar with the general testing requirements of backflow preventers. As mentioned in Chapter 4.8, testable assemblies must be tested upon installation, after a repair or relocation, or at the frequency specified by the public water system. Testing should be done in accordance with the procedures located in Appendix E or any nationally recognized test procedure. Any test procedure should only be used with prior approval of the local cross connection control administrator.