

Summary of Proposed Revisions to the Manual for Cross-Connection Control

OVERVIEW

In general, the proposed modifications are to provide consistency with recent revisions to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Rule 62-555.360 F.A.C. and the American Water Works Association Manual M-14 - *Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control*. While the proposed revisions address updates to be consistent with current State regulations, they will provide staff with progressive enforcement steps to resolve non-compliance situations.

PROPOSED REVISIONS:

Title Change

Existing: Manual for Cross-Connection Control
Proposed: Rules and Regulations for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control

General Format, Organization, and Nomenclature

The general format, organization, and nomenclature used in the proposed document has been revised to be consistent with the American Water Works Association *Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control*, Manual of Water Supply Practices, M-14.

Section 1 – General Policy

This section defines and establishes the following items:

- 1.1 Purpose of the document;
- 1.2 Application of rules and regulations;
- 1.3 Public and private water systems;
- 1.4 Responsible entity for protection of the public water supply; and,
- 1.5 Authority

Section 2 – Definitions

Updates and provides additional definitions relevant to the revised document.

Section 3 – Requirements

3.2 – Backflow Prevention Assembly Requirements

- 3.2.1 - Establishes the type of backflow assembly required for health (high) hazard;
- 3.2.2 - Establishes the type of backflow assembly required for non-health (low) hazard scenarios;
- 3.2.3 - Provides a detailed list of common scenarios when backflow prevention assemblies are required
- 3.2.4 - Establishes Installation Prohibited on Rights-of-Way/Exceptions
- 3.2.5 - Provides Installation and Maintenance Responsibility

3.3 – Backflow Prevention Assembly Installation

- 3.3.1 - Provides general sizing, location, and installation requirements for backflow prevention assemblies;
- 3.3.2 – (through 3.2.7) Provides installation applications for specific backflow assembly types.

3.4 – Inspections

Provides circumstances for which water service inspections are required to determine risk and establish requirements for installation of backflow prevention assembly.

3.5 – Registration and Testing

- 3.5.1 – Establishes requirements for registering backflow assemblies with the City;
- 3.5.2 – Establishes recordkeeping requirements and acceptance/rejection criteria;
- 3.5.3 – Establishes the water service customer as the entity responsible for obtaining the required annual testing, and relinquishes the City of any liability associated with said testing requirements;
- 3.5.4 – Establishes the frequency of testing for backflow assemblies;
- 3.5.5 – Establishes the testing procedure guidelines;
- 3.5.6 – Establishes the residential backflow customer’s ‘Opt-In’ Testing Program. This Program provides residential customers the option of having a City contracted plumber test the backflow prevention assembly. The cost for the test would be included in the customer’s utility bill;
- 3.5.7 – Establishes minimum certification requirements for backflow testers;
- 3.5.8 – Establishes criteria for maintaining “approved” tester status with the City.

3.6 – Repair and Maintenance

Establishes the water service customer as the responsible party for maintaining, repairing, or replacing backflow prevention assemblies as require to maintain compliance with the rules and regulations.

Section 4 – Emergency Procedures, Violations, and Enforcement

4.1 – Violations

Establishes the foundation for penalty for non-compliance with these proposed rules and regulations.

4.2 – Serious and Immediate Threats

Establishes that the immediate suspension of water service may be warranted, without prior notification, if the customer's water service is determined to have a backflow hazard or cross-connection that is judged to be a serious and immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of person, public water supply, or the environment.

4.3 – Less Serious but Ongoing Threats

Establishes a notification process and enforcement procedures of non-compliance if the customer's water service is determined to have a backflow hazard or cross-connection that is judged not to be a serious and immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of person, public water supply, or the environment.

4.4 – Requests for Time Extensions

Establishes procedures and requirements for requesting additional time to eliminate a backflow hazard or uncontrolled cross-connection.

4.5 – Fraudulent Inspection Reports and Testing

Establishes the foundation for imposing penalties for fraudulent inspection reports and testing.

Section 5 – Construction Standards

5.1 – General Construction Standards

Establishes general construction standards for installing backflow prevention assemblies

Appendix A – Typical Facilities Requiring Protection

Updated facilities and required devices.

Appendix B – Construction Details

Provides typical installation details for various types and sizes of backflow prevention assemblies.