

WHAT IS BACKFLOW?

Backflow is the undesirable reversal of the flow of water in a potable water distribution system as a result of a cross connection. In other words, water flow going in the wrong direction. There are two types of backflow:

Backpressure occurs when water generated pressure from a private service exceeds the water pressure provided by the City's water system. Causes for increased pressure from a private system may include a pump, elevated tank, boiler or other condition.

Backsiphonage occurs when backflow is caused by negative or reduced pressure in the supply piping.

The Public Works Backflow Inspector will conduct a survey of your business to determine the need for the installation of **Backflow Prevention Assemblies** to protect the public water supply.



Double Check Assembly

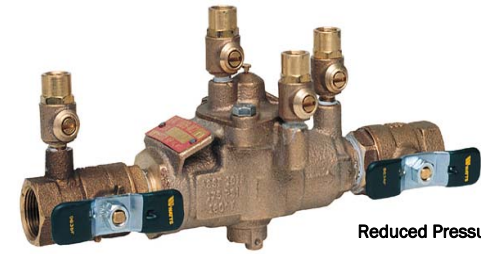
WHAT IS A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY?

A backflow prevention assembly is a mechanical device used to prevent backflow. Backflow assemblies have two spring loaded check valves that remain open when the water flows in the proper direction. The check valves are designed to close if the water flow is reversed to prevent backflow. The assemblies have test ports for periodic testing.

The two most commonly used assemblies are Reduced Pressure Zone Assembly and Double Check Assembly shown in the illustrations of this brochure. The type of assembly required depends on the type of potential hazard found after an inspection by the Public Works Backflow Inspector.

WHO CAN INSTALL A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY?

All backflow prevention assemblies require a plumbing permit from the City of Mesquite Building Inspection Division before installation. A licensed plumber, registered with the City of Mesquite, may install the required backflow assemblies. The backflow assembly on an irrigation system may be installed by a licensed irrigator who is registered with the City of Mesquite.



Reduced Pressure
Zone Assembly

WHY MUST I INSTALL A BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY?

Approved backflow prevention assemblies must be installed to comply with City of Mesquite Ordinance No. 3325 as well as State and Federal Environmental Laws. Certain backflow prevention assemblies with test ports must be tested upon installation and thereafter annually by a licensed backflow tester.

A fee of \$25 per year, per assembly, will be charged by the City of Mesquite for annual inspections. This fee is in addition to any testing charges by the backflow tester. The fee will be included on your monthly water bill in the month of your annual inspection.

HOW DO I FIND A BACKFLOW TESTER?

A list of registered Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers is available on the City's Website at www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities or by contacting the Public Works Backflow Inspector at 972-216-6947.

**PROTECTING THE PUBLIC
WATER SUPPLY IS
EVERYONE'S
RESPONSIBILITY!**

The City of Mesquite maintains a Superior Public Water System rating with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. We take pride in the water we provide and strive for uninterrupted service.

The water entering the distribution system is a protected, potable water meeting or exceeding all State and Federal standards. Once the potable water enters the point of service, it is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure backflow does not occur.

If you need information on what you can do to protect it, or have other questions regarding your water, please call 972-216-6947. We will be happy to assist you.

**WATER IS OUR MOST
VALUABLE RESOURCE!**

**PUBLIC WORKS
BACKFLOW INSPECTIONS**

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**PUBLIC WORKS
BACKFLOW INSPECTIONS**

**PROTECTING
THE
PUBLIC
WATER
SUPPLY
FROM
BACKFLOW**

