

History

The 1996 Clean Drinking Water Act initiated laws for Cross Connection.

In 2003, EEWA board of directors was authorized by the homeowners to manage the annual backflow testing for sprinkler backflow prevention assemblies connected to the water system.

Cross-connection

Why does cross connection matter?

Cross connections provide pathways for contaminants to enter the drinking water supply.

Backflow

Backflow occurs when:

Contaminated water enters the main water supply by means of back pressure or back siphonage.



Contact Us

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Emerald Estates Water Association Backflow Prevention

Maintaining the integrity of
our public drinking water
system.

A guide to backflow and cross connection





EEWA Backflow Process:

All properties with automatic sprinkler systems will receive a testing notice in the mail informing them of the annual testing requirements.

Do not schedule a backflow test as the association will conduct the testing and bill your account.

Bob Chandler, our Water Master who is a licensed tester, will conduct the annual backflow testing.

Turn on and run your sprinkler system prior to Bob's arrival, which is typically in mid-May to early June.

Failure to comply with backflow testing may result in disconnection of water service. A reconnection fee of \$200.00 will apply.

As a customer, you also have a responsibility to help keep the public water supply safe.

How much does the backflow testing cost?

The cost for the annual backflow test is \$25.00 and your account will be billed.

If water is not turned on at time of testing, a \$15.00 fee will be charged to the account for water turn on to test the backflow assembly.

What happens if my device fails?

Homeowners will be notified immediately of any failed backflow test.

Homeowners can make the repairs themselves or retain a contractor. Retesting is required. A final report that the assembly has been fixed must be sent to EEWA.

The homeowner is responsible for all costs associated with the installation, maintenance and repair of the backflow assembly.

In the event the assembly fails, feel free to continue to use the sprinkler system. Repairs need to be completed with 15 days or a shut-off notice will be issued.

Backflow Retesting options after repair:

- If your contractor is a licensed backflow tester, EEWA will accept a copy of their testing results indicating that the system has passed. A current instrument calibration certification must accompany the contractor's backflow test.
- Contact EEWA to reschedule a retest.

ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER SPRINKLER DEVICE PROCESS: (AVB's)

EEWA requires verification for AVB sprinkler devices to ensure that the sprinkler system configuration meets the following criteria:

- AVB's must be at least 6" above the highest outlet or piping.
- Must have no downstream valves and cannot be subject to pressure for more than 12 hours in a 24-hour period.

Properties with AVB sprinkler systems must submit a documentation of inspection to EEWA. Updated documentation will be required when there is a change of homeownership.

Failure to comply with state law regulations of proper installation can result in termination of your water service.