

FAQ: Cross Connection Control Program

Why did I receive this letter from the City?

You have received this letter because you are the registered water meter customer for your premises, business or property which is a non-single family property and thus required to have a backflow device installed after each water meter. The backflow devices must be tested once every 12 months, certification submitted and administrative fee paid.

The letter also informs you that the City of Weston has partnered with Aqua Backflow Inc. to manage this cross connection and backflow program.

What is Cross Connection and Backflow?

A cross connection is any connection or potential connection between a drinking water supply system and any source of non-drinkable liquid, solid or gas. Backflow occurs when water flows in the opposite direction from its normal intended flow, thus causing water from the customer's premises to enter the public water supply system via a cross connection. Backflow is undesirable because of the risk of contamination of drinking water. See the FDEP website <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/drinkingwater/bfp.htm> for additional information on cross connection and backflow.

What is the Cross Connection Control Program?

The Cross Connection Control Program proactively protects the public water supply from potential contamination sources as mandated by the City of Weston Code of Ordinances Section 111.23, and in keeping with the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 (US Congress), Florida Department of Environmental Protection regulations, and Florida Plumbing Codes.

The program requires that all connections to the public water supply system, except single family residences, include a backflow prevention device that shall be certified annually by a certified backflow technician.

Who is Responsible for the Testing and Certification of Backflows?

It is the responsibility of the water customer to hire a licensed and/or certified backflow tester to annually certify that all backflow devices on their property meet the functional requirements.

What is the Role of Aqua Backflow Inc?

The City has contracted with Aqua Backflow to assist with the Cross Connection Control Program.

Aqua Backflow Inc. will:

- Mail test due notices to customers.
- Process test results uploaded to their web site by testers.
- Track the certification and licensing of testers and testing companies.
- Track the calibration of instruments used by testers.

- Provide summary and detailed reports to the City on compliance, backflow locations, etc.
- Provide educational materials to customers.

What is the amount of the fee to be paid to the City?

The water customer will be required to pay a fee of \$65.05 per backflow device to the City annually upon re-certification. Checks should be made payable to the “City of Weston” and mailed to City of Weston Public Works Department, 2599 South Post Road, Weston, Florida 33327.

Your backflow tester will be required by Aqua Backflow to pay a fee of \$9.95 per backflow device when uploading test data. Adding the \$9.95 + \$65.05 gives a total of \$75.00 which is the total administrative fee for each backflow device.

Am I Responsible For Paying The Licensed And/Or Certified Backflow Tester?

Yes.

Do I Have to Recertify Backflows that are Currently Certified?

No. Backflows with valid certificates do not have to be recertified using the new procedure until the next test date which is **one year** from the last date tested. Aqua Backflow Inc. will send out reminder notices to each customer as the test date for each device approaches.

What Happens if I Do Not Certify My Backflows?

Compliance with this program is mandatory for all applicable water users. Non-compliance can result in the suspension of water service.

Where Can I Get More Information

If you have any questions relating to this program, please contact the City of Weston Public Works Department at 954-385-2600.