

WATER DISTRICT NO. 83  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
RESOLUTION NO. 251

A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Water District No. 83, adopting policy and procedure concerning cross-connection control and backflow prevention assemblies.

WHEREAS, Water District No. 83 desires to clarify that the installation of backflow prevention assemblies throughout the District is an essential part of the regulations and standards and a condition of continued water service to its customers.

BE IT RESOLVED by Water District No. 83, King County, Washington, that:

Section 1. The installation or maintenance of any cross-connection with the public water supply of Water District No. 83 is prohibited, except as authorized herein. Any such cross-connection now existing or hereafter installed is hereby declared subject to immediate termination of water service and any such cross-connection shall be abated immediately; and

Section 2. The control or elimination of cross-connections shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC 246-290-490). The policies, procedures, and criteria for determining appropriate levels of protection shall be in accordance with The Accepted Procedure and Practice in Cross-Connection Control Manual, as published by the Pacific Northwest Section, American Waterworks Association, May 1990, Fifth Edition, or any superseding edition; and

Section 3. Water District No. 83 shall deny or discontinue water service to any customer failing to cooperate in the installation, maintenance, testing or inspection of backflow prevention assemblies required and as stated in WAC 246-290-490.

Section 4. As a condition of new or continued water service, approved backflow prevention assemblies are required and shall be maintained by all customers who:

- (a) Are industrial or commercial customers not entitled to an exemption under Section 6.
- (b) Operate commercial or residential fire sprinkler systems connected to their potable water plumbing.
- (c) Operate irrigation systems connected to their potable water plumbing.
- (d) Maintain cross-connections of their potable water system with air conditioning systems, medical apparatuses, or other devices or processes where chemicals or other objectionable substances may be siphoned into the water system.
- (e) Maintain efficient plumbing arrangements which make it impractical to install a backflow device within the building.
- (f) In the judgment of the Water District compromise the public's health or safety.

Section 5. "An approved backflow prevention assembly" means a backflow prevention assembly model approved by the State of Washington Department of Health and Water District 83. Unless an exemption is granted, the minimum requirement for a backflow prevention assembly shall be a double-check valve device. The backflow assembly shall be installed at the service connection immediately downstream from the water meter.

Section 6. Vacuum breakers may be substituted for other backflow prevention assemblies required under this regulation where the Water District determines that the circumstances and good engineering practices allow such substitution without compromising protection of water quality and public health. Where an industrial or commercial customer can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Water District that there are no cross-connections with the water supply on their premises and that no health hazard is posed by reason of the presence of toxic materials on the environment, the Water District may grant the customer an exemption from the cross-connection requirements herein. Decisions made under this section shall be made at the sole discretion of the Water District to carry out the cross-connection control programs of the water system. Exemptions are subject to periodic review and may be revoked whenever a cross-connection is made or a risk to public health or water quality is present.

Section 7. Water District No. 83 may delegate the authority to inspect, approve, and disapprove backflow prevention assemblies; to require corrections, modifications, repairs, or maintenance on backflow prevention assemblies and to inspect all premises of customers where backflow prevention assemblies may be required. A minimum standard for the maintenance and installation of backflow prevention assemblies shall be those set forth in the Accepted Procedures and Practice in Cross-Connection Control Manual, May 1990, Fifth Edition, as published by the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Waterworks Association and any subsequent edition or amendment of said manual. Water District No. 83 is authorized to establish higher standards for installation and maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies when good engineering practice, industry standards or the protection of public health requires.

Section 8. As a condition of a continued water service, customers shall make their premises, including buildings and structures, to which water is supplied, accessible to District 83 personnel, to determine whether backflow prevention assemblies are required or are properly installed and maintained. Testing and inspection will be made annually.

Section 9. Prior to the installation of any plumbing requiring backflow prevention assemblies, the customer shall obtain a permit from the Water District for such installation.

Section 10. The requirements herein for backflow prevention assembly installation shall apply even though building codes may not require them.

Section 11. Water District No. 83 prohibits interconnection of private water supplies with the Water District' distribution system. Auxiliary water supplies (private well, piped irrigation sources, etc.) are a major cross-connection control hazard and therefore, must be effectively isolated from the domestic water supply. Water District No. 83 cross-connection control policies and requirements for customers with private wells are as follows:

(a) No backflow protection is required if the source is verified to be permanently inactive and abandoned in accordance with the requirements of the Department of Health.

(b) If the well remains active, an approved double-check valve assembly is required at the service connection to provide a measure of protection against inadvertent interconnection of the supplies.

(c) New services will be locked off until compliance is verified by Water District No. 83. Visual inspection of piping is required for premises retaining active well systems.

Section 12. All backflow prevention assemblies are subject to annual inspection and testing. The cost of installation, annual performance testing, and any required maintenance of the backflow prevention assemblies is the responsibility of the property owner.

ADOPTED by Water District No. 83 Board of Commissioners, King County, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof, this 13th day of June, 1994.

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Commissioners