

NOTICE

Cross Connection Control Notice – Lawn Irrigation Systems and Fire Protection Systems

EVANSVILLE – As you may already know, the Evansville Water and Sewer Utility is required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to develop, implement, and enforce a comprehensive cross connection control program for the elimination of existing cross connections and prevention or protection from all future cross connections.

Cross connections are sometimes protected by a valve called a backflow preventer. Backflow preventers are the property of the water customer and the responsibility lies with the customer for required annual testing and maintenance. The water customer must contract with a licensed tester to perform the required annual tests and any necessary repairs. Most plumbing contractors are now certified to test backflow preventers. There are costs associated with testing and maintaining backflow preventers.

Backflow preventers may be found at any number of locations on your water systems. Typically, commercial & industrial customers will have backflow preventers just after the water meter and also on wet fire protection systems. They may also have lawn irrigation systems or other water connections throughout their facilities that require backflow protection.

Residential backflow preventers may be found on lawn irrigation systems, wet fire protection systems, hot water heating (boiler) systems, swimming pool fills, water features, etc. Backflow preventers may also be required if there is another water source on the site such as a well, pond, river, etc.

Lawn irrigation systems will be starting up soon. Codes require that a backflow preventer be tested when the backflow preventer is re-installed or started up every season. All backflow preventers must be tested a minimum of once annually.

The contractor hired to implement and oversee Evansville Water and Sewer Utility's backflow program is Aqua Backflow. They specialize in cross connection control program implementation and management. If you have or require backflow protection, you may be notified for compliance (testing, repairs, installations, inspections, or surveys) by Aqua Backflow. Questions can be directed to Aqua Backflow at [847-742-2296](tel:847-742-2296). Aqua Backflow **does not** test, install, or repair backflow preventers.

The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility Cross Connection Control Program is designed to safeguard public health. We ask for your cooperation with our program, its enforcement, and any requests for information that come from Aqua Backflow or Utility staff.