



RE: Irrigation System—Reduced Pressure Zone (RP) Backflow Prevention Assembly required by 1/1/2027

Dear Tennessee American Water (TAW) Customer,

Action is required by the Customer to protect the TAW Distribution System and comply with American Water's Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention program implemented pursuant to: Sec. 68-221-711(6) of Tennessee Code Annotated & Section 0400-45-01-.17(6) Rules Governing Public Water Systems.

Lawn irrigation systems, both commercial and residential, are recognized by the State of Tennessee, Division of Water Resources as high-hazard cross-connections to the TAW Distribution system. The contact between sprinkler heads and the soil, or submergence of sprinkler heads allow a connection between the potable water system and water of unknown or unsafe quality. Soil and standing water in contact with sprinkler heads poses a significant risk of exposure to E.coli, Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other pathogens.

Currently, the irrigation system serving this property is equipped with a Double-Check (DC) Backflow Prevention Assembly. DC Backflow Prevention Assemblies are only approved for use in low hazard/non-health hazard applications. Therefore, the irrigation system serving this property must be protected by an RP Backflow Prevention Assembly by 1/1/27. Additionally, the lowest part of the relief valve discharge must be a minimum of 12 inches above the ground, plus the nominal size of the discharge opening. Any enclosure for the RP Backflow Prevention Assembly must allow unobstructed relief valve discharge at its full capacity, without flooding.

Prior to 1/1/27, a DC Backflow Prevention Assembly installed for protection of an irrigation system that fails its annually required test MUST immediately be replaced with an RP Backflow Prevention Assembly.

To avoid an interruption in irrigation service, it is critical that this upgrade is completed by 1/1/27.

If you have any questions, please email or call using the information shown below.

Sincerely,

Tennessee American Water Cross Connection Department
109 Wiehl Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403
tawc.crossconnection@amwater.com
Phone: (423)771-4701

Esto es un aviso importante sobre su servicio de agua. Para la ayuda de la traducción, por favor llamas a Tennessee American Water al numero 1-866-736-6420.