

SOUTHWEST LINCOLN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO: 96-1

AN ORDINANCE REPLACING ORDINANCE 89-5 ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF BACKFLOW AND CROSS CONNECTION WITHIN THE DISTRICT WATER SYSTEM AS REQUIRED BY OAR CHAPTER 333 SECTION 61-070; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

SECTION 1. GENERAL POLICY

1.1 PURPOSE. The purpose of this Ordinance is:

1.1.1 to protect the potable water supply of the Southwest Lincoln County Water District ("District") from the possibility of contamination or pollution by isolating within the consumer's private water system such contaminates or pollutants which could backflow into the District's potable water distribution system by way of back pressure or back siphonage; and

1.1.2 to promote the elimination or control of existing cross connections, actual or potential, between consumer's distribution system and the District's potable water distribution system and

1.1.3 to establish and provide for a continuing program of cross connection control to protect the potable water system of the District;

1.2 RESPONSIBILITY. The District is required under, OAR Chapter 333 Section 61-070, to be responsible for the protection of the potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to the backflow of contaminants or pollutants through water service connections. If, in the judgment of the District or its Designated Agent, an approved backflow prevention assembly is required at the consumer's water service connection or within the consumer's private water system, the District, or its Designated Agent, shall give notice in writing to said consumer to install such an approved backflow prevention assembly(s) at a specific location(s) on his premises. The consumer shall immediately install such an approved backflow prevention assembly(s) at the consumer's own expense; and failure, refusal, or inability on the part of the consumer to install, have tested as required, and have maintained as needed said assembly(s) shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until such requirements have been satisfactorily met.

1.3 ADOPTION BY REFERENCE. OAR chapter 333 Section 61-070 thru Section 61-072 and all standards, listings and publications referred to in this Ordinance are, by those references, made part of these rules as though fully set forth.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

"Air Gap Separation" means the physical vertical separation between the free flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipe line and the open or non-pressure receiving vessel.

"Approval" or "Approved" means approved in writing.

"Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker" means a not internally loaded device which allows air to enter a water system when the system pressure is reduced to a gauge pressure of zero or below.

"Auxiliary Water Supply" means any supply of water used to augment the supply obtained from the public water system which serves the premises in question.

"Backflow" means the flow in the direction opposite to the normal flow caused by backsiphonage or back pressure. Backsiphonage is caused by negative or reduced pressure in the supply piping and back pressure occurs when the potable supply piping is connected to a system or fixture which exceeds the operating pressure of the supply piping.

"Backflow Prevention Device Assembly" means a backflow prevention device such as a pressure vacuum breaker, a double check valve or a reduced pressure principle device, and the attached shut off valves on the inlet and outlet ends of the device assembled as a complete unit.

"Check Valve" means a valve which allows flow in only one direction.

"Contaminant" means any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.

"Cross Connection" means any link or channel between the piping which carries drinking water and the piping or fixtures which carry other water or other substances.

"Customer or Consumer" means any person(s), firm, corporation or other entity that is furnished water through a legal service connection to the District's potable water system.

"Designated Agent" means the individual responsible for implementation and enforcement of this ordinance.

"Distribution System" means the network of pipes and other facilities which are used to distribute water from the source, treatment, transmission, or storage facilities to the water user.

"District" means the Southwest Lincoln County Water District, or its Designated Agent.

"Double Check Valve Assembly" means an assembly of two independently acting check valves with shut-off valves on each side of the check valves and test cocks for checking the water tightness of each check valve.

"Illegal User" means any person(s), firm, corporation or other entity that is not authorized by the District to use a customer's service.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, association, firm, partnership, municipal, state or federal agency, or joint stock company and includes any receiver, special master, trustee, assignee, or other similar representative thereof.

"Potable Water" means water which has sufficiently low concentrations of microbiological, inorganic chemical, organic chemical, radiological or physical substances so that individuals drinking such water at normal levels of consumption, will not be exposed to disease organisms or other substances which may produce harmful physiological effects.

"Potable Water System" means the network of pipes and other facilities which are used to distribute water from the source, treatment, transmission, or storage facilities to the water user.

"Pressure Vacuum Breaker" means an assembly (consisting of a spring loaded check valve, an independently operating air inlet valve, two resilient seated shutoff valves, and properly located resilient seated test cocks) which allows air to enter a water system when the system pressure is reduced to a gauge pressure of zero or below.

"Public Health Hazard" means a condition, device or practice which is conducive to the introduction of waterborne disease organisms, or harmful chemical, physical, or radioactive substances into the District's potable water system and which presents an unreasonable risk to health.

"Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device (R.P. Device)" means a device for preventing backflow which has two check valves, a differential relief valve located between two check valves, two shut-off valves, one on the upstream side and the other on the downstream side of the check valves, and four test cocks for checking the water tightness of the check valves and the operation of the relief valve.

"Service Connection" means that portion of the potable water system which conveys water from the distribution main to and thru the consumer's meter.

"Waiver" means official written permission from the District for a consumer to deviate from the standards set forth in this ordinance.

SECTION 3. BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS.

3.1 No water service connection to a premises shall be installed or maintained by the District unless the water supply is protected as required by the Districts "Rules and Regulations" and this Ordinance. Service of water to any consumer shall be discontinued by the District if a backflow prevention assembly required by this ordinance is not installed, tested and maintained, or if it is found that a backflow prevention assembly has been removed, by passed, or if an unprotected cross-connection exists on the premises. Service of water will not be restored until such conditions, or defects are corrected.

3.2 The consumer's system shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times to designated representatives of the District to determine whether unprotected cross-connections other or structural or sanitary hazards, including violations of these regulations, exist. When such a condition becomes known the District shall deny or immediately discontinue water service to the consumer's premises by providing for a physical break in the service line until the consumer has corrected the condition(s) in conformance with this Ordinance.

3.3 An approved backflow prevention assembly shall be installed on each service line to a consumer's water system at or near the property line or immediately inside the building being served; but in all cases, before the first branch leading off the service line wherever the following conditions exist:

3.3.1 In the case of a consumer's premises having an auxiliary water supply which is not or may not be of safe bacteriological or chemical quality, the District's potable water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line commensurate with the degree of hazard.

3.3.2 In the case of a consumer's premises on which any industrial fluids or any objectionable substance is handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the District's potable water system, District's potable water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line commensurate with the degree of hazard. This shall include the handling of process waters and waters originating from the District's potable water system which have been subject to deterioration in quality.

3.3.3 In the case of premises having;

- (1) internal cross-connections that cannot be permanently corrected or protected against,
- (2) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements,
- (3) restricted entry to some or all portions of the premises so that the premises are not readily accessible for the inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not dangerous cross-connections exist,

the public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line.

3.4 The type of protection assembly required under subsections 3.3.1, 3.3.2, and 3.3.3 shall depend upon the degree of hazard which exists as follows:

3.4.1 In the case of any premises where there is an auxiliary water supply as stated in subsection 3.3.1 of this section and it is not subject to any of the following rules the potable water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device.

3.4.2 In the case of any premises where there is water or substance that would be objectionable but not hazardous to health, if introduced into the potable water system, the potable water system shall be protected by an approved air gap, an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device, or an approved double check valve backflow prevention assembly.

3.4.3 In the case of any premises where there is any material dangerous to health which is handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the potable water system, the potable water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly. Examples of premises where these conditions will exist include sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping stations, chemical manufacturing plants, hospital, mortuaries and plating plants.

3.4.4 In the case of any premises where there are unprotected cross-connections, either actual or potential, the potable water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly at the service connection.

3.4.5 In the case of any premises where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it is impossible or impractical to make a complete in-plant cross-connection survey, the potable water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by either an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly on each service to the premises.

3.5 Any backflow prevention assembly required herein shall be a make, model and size approved by the Oregon Health Division Drinking water Section for use in the State of Oregon.

3.6 It shall be the duty of the consumer at any premises where backflow prevention assemblies are installed to have a field test performed by a certified backflow prevention assembly tester upon installation and a least once per year. In those instances where the District deems the hazard to be great enough the District may require field tests at more frequent intervals. These tests shall be at the expense of the water user and shall be performed by a certified tester approved by the Oregon Health Division Drinking water Section. The consumer shall notify the District in advance when the tests are to be undertaken so that an designated agent may witness the field tests if so desired. These assemblies shall be repaired, overhauled or replaced at the expense of the consumer whenever said assemblies are found to be defective. Records of such tests, repairs and overhaul shall be kept and a copy of such records shall be sent to District.

3.7 All presently installed backflow prevention assemblies which do not meet the requirements of this section but were approved devices for the purposes described herein at the time of installation and which have been properly maintained, shall, except for the testing and maintenance requirements under subsection 3.6, be excluded from the requirements of these rules so long as the District is assured that they will satisfactorily protect the Water Purveyor's system. When ever a device is moved from the present location or requires more than minimum maintenance or when the District finds that the maintenance constitutes a hazard to health, the unit shall be replaced by an approved backflow prevention assembly meeting the requirements of this section.

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT.

4.1 When the District's Designated Agent determines that the backflow prevention assembly or premises are not in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance or any rules promulgated pursuant hereto, the District's Designated Agent shall deny or immediately discontinue service to the premises by providing for a physical break in the service line until the consumer corrects the conditions causing non - compliance. A decision by the District's Designated Agent to deny or discontinue service may be appealed to the Board of Commissioners. The appeal shall be in writing and filed with the District Office not later than 10 days from the date of the District's Designated Agent's decision. The appeal may be considered by the District at its regular meeting or at any special meeting called for that purpose. An appeal will not stay the effectiveness of the District's Designated Agent's decision in cases where there is, in the opinion of the District's Designate Agent, an actual or imminent risk of hazard to human health.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE


5.1 Inasmuch as it is the duty of the District to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare, this Ordinance shall go into full force and effect immediately upon passage and approval.


Passed by the Board
of Commissioners
on this 13th day of March
1996

Approved by the Chairman
on this 13th day of March
1996

ATTEST:

APPROVED:


Secretary


Chairman