

## Why is my backflow device leaking again?

You've just had your backflow device tested, and it passed. Or it was leaking and you just had it repaired, and it starts leaking again.

Why??

### What causes leaking?

A backflow device contains many moving parts, many made out of rubber and plastic. Quite often, simple wear & tear can cause the backflow device to fail and to leak.

The most common cause of leaking is foreign debris in the water, such as rust, sand, rocks, and construction material, such as concrete, asphalt, solder, nails, and ballpoint pens, just to name a few. (Yes, I once found a ballpoint pen stuck in a backflow device.) This foreign debris can wear out or damage the internal parts of a backflow device.



### After your device is repaired, how long will it be before it leaks again?

So, how long does it take for a backflow device to fail or to start leaking again, after it has been tested or repaired?

The answer is "anytime".

### Why?

The reason a new leak can happen at anytime is because the conditions that existed in the water that caused a previous leak still exist in the water after a repair to stop a leak. So, as soon as you turn the water back on, a new piece of debris can flow into your backflow device at anytime, causing a new leak.