

Plainfield Township Water System Residential Cross Connection Control

Residential customers of the Plainfield Township Water System who have a lawn irrigation system may receive a letter and test form in the mail this spring. A map of the testing areas can be viewed at www.plainfieldchartertp.org.

During the past few years, The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has elevated the awareness of potential hazards that residential cross connections pose to public water systems. It is the responsibility of the water purveyor to have a comprehensive cross connection control program for the elimination and prevention of all cross connections. A ***cross connection*** is an arrangement of piping which could allow undesirable water, bacteria or chemicals to enter your drinking (potable) water system as a result of backflow.

The Water system currently provides water to more than 10,000 residential (retail) customers, many of whom have connections to lawn irrigation systems. MDEQ Cross Connection Rules and the State Plumbing Code require irrigation systems to have approved backflow prevention devices installed on their supply lines. Most of these devices are required to be routinely tested. The test must be done at least once every three (3) years by an individual who is recognized by ASSE to test backflow preventers.

Customers with irrigation systems who do not receive a notice this year can expect to receive notice within the next three (3) years informing them their backflow prevention device will need to be tested.



A pressure vacuum breaker like the one shown here is the most common type of residential backflow prevention device. However, some systems may be equipped with a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer or atmospheric vacuum breakers located downstream of control valves.

In concerning compliance should be made to the Plainfield Township Water Department at 616-363-9660.

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Director of Public Services