

# Elk County Water District **Ordinance #2012-01**

Adopted July 6, 2011  
Amended and Adopted July 11, 2012

## **Cross-Connection Control Program**

### Section 1. Cross Connection Control General Policy

1.1 Purpose. The District finds and declares the purpose of this ordinance is as follows:

1.1.1 To protect the public potable water supply of town of Elk from the possibility of contamination or pollution due to cross connections by containing hazards at the service connection.

1.1.2 To promote the elimination or control of existing cross connections, actual or potential, between the consumers potable water system(s) and nonpotable water systems, plumbing fixtures, and and/or industrial piping systems.

1.1.3 To provide for a continuing Program of Cross-Connection Control which systematically and effectively reduce the risk of pollution or contamination of the potable water system.

1.2 Authority. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to California Regulations Related to Drinking Water, Title 17 Code of Regulations, Section 7583 – 7605.

1.2.1 The District has authority in the development, implementation, and enforcement of the CCCP standards and have at least one person trained in cross connection control.

1.3 Responsibility.

1.3.1 It shall be the responsibility of the Cross Connection Control Department, the Administration Division, and Billing Division to administer and enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

1.3.2 The District is primarily responsible for the prevention of contamination of the public potable water system. Responsibility begins at the point of origin and includes treatment facilities, distribution mains and all facilities under complete control of the District, and ends at the consumers service connection. The District shall ensure adequate backflow protection is maintained on consumer water systems connected to the potable water system.

1.3.3 The consumer will have the responsibility of preventing contaminants from their water system from entering the potable water system as required by this policy and the Health Agency.

1.3.4 The District will not be held responsible for any losses or damages incurred by the consumer due to improper or proper installation, repair, or upgrade of backflow prevention assembly. The customer will bear all costs for installation or renovation of existing consumer plumbing as a result of any decreases in line pressure or prevention of release of pressure due to installation or upgrade of backflow prevention assembly.

### Section 2.1 Definitions

2.1.1 See attached “Definitions 2.1”

### Section 3.1 Requirements

#### 3.1.0 Policy

3.1.1 The type of protection that shall be provided to prevent backflow into the public water supply system shall be commensurate with the degree of hazard, actual or potential, that exists on the water consumers premises. Unprotected cross connections from the consumer with the public water supply are prohibited. The type of backflow prevention assembly that may be required at customer service connection, listed in decreasing level of protection, includes: Air-gap separation (AG), Reduced Pressure Backflow Prevention Assembly (RP), and Double Check Valve Assembly (DC). The consumer may choose a higher level of protection than required by the District.

### 3.1.2 Surveys

The customers premises shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times to authorized representatives of the District to determine if protection of the potable water system is required at the service connection.

### 3.1.3 Backflow Prevention Assemblies Required.

An approved backflow prevention assembly shall be installed on each service line to a customer's water system at or near the property line, in all cases, before the first branch leading off the service line wherever the following condition(s) exist:

#### A. Irrigation.

- (1) In the case of premises where an irrigation system into which fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides are, or can be, injected exists. RP
- (2) In the case of premises where pop-up sprinklers are connected to the potable water system exists. RP
- (3) In the case of premises where landscape irrigation systems are connected to the potable water system exists. RP

#### B. Auxilliary Water Supplies.

- (1) In the case of premises having an auxiliary water supply, that is not or may not be of bacteriological or chemical quality and which is not acceptable as an additional source by the District and where cross connections are known to exist. RP
- (2) In the case of premises having an auxiliary water supply with no known cross connections. DC

#### C. Fire Sprinkler Systems.

- (1) In the case of premises where the fire system is directly connected to the potable water system and there are no pumps, tanks, or reservoirs; no physical connections to other water supplies; no additives; and all sprinkler drains discharge to atmosphere. DC
- (2) In the case of premises where the fire system is directly supplied from the public water system and that also contain; auxiliary water supplies, on site water storage, fire booster pumps, or chemicals introduced. RP

#### D. Internal Cross Connections.

- (1) In the case of premises having (A) internal cross connections that cannot be permanently corrected or controlled; and (B) In the case of premises where there is a repeated history of cross connections being established or re-established; and (C) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements; and (D) where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes; or (E) in the case of premises where the entry is restricted so that inspections for cross connections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or at sufficient short notice to assure that they do not exist. RP

- (2) In the case of premises where a booster pump and/or storage tank is connected to the potable water system. DC.
- (3) In the case of premises where a swimming pool exists, or where a hot tub, or Jacuzzi is cross connected with the potable water system. RP
- (4) Premises or parcels having more than one service connection as classified as a dual service or multiple family dwelling shall be protected by an approved backflow prevention assembly commensurate to the degree of hazard.
- (5) In the case of commercial premises where a sewage lift station exists. RP
- (6) In the case of premises on which any industrial fluids or any other substances are handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the potable water system. RP
- (7) In the case of premises where there is water or a pollutant that would be objectionable to but not hazardous to health if introduced into the potable water system. DC.
- (8) At any service connection that has a PSI rating of 30 PSI or less. DC
- (9) At any service exceeding forty (40) feet in height, as measured from the service connection to the highest water outlet. DC

Examples of typical services that constitute a hazard to the potable water system and that require the installation of an approved backflow prevention assembly include but are not limited to;

- A. Commercial parcels with sewage lift stations
- B. Pumped greywater or rainwater
- C. Restaurants
- D. Food processing facilities
- E. Auto repair facilities
- F. Auxiliary water supplies
- G. Multiple services to one parcel or multiple adjacent parcels under common control
- H. Pools and spas

#### 3.1.4 Acceptable Backflow Prevention Assemblies.

Backflow prevention assemblies must be of type listed on the District “Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies” list and approved by the Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California (USC FCCCHR), and must comply with Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

#### 3.1.5 Installation of Backflow Prevention Assemblies:

Approved backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed in compliance with the District installation standards, any deviation from these standards shall have district written approval. Backflow prevention assemblies installed, modified, relocated or removed shall be approved and inspected prior to being placed into service. The installer is responsible to secure the inspection or re-inspection by the district. The water line from the meter to the backflow prevention assembly shall be left exposed for inspection. Backflow prevention assemblies shall not be bypassed, made inoperative, removed, or otherwise made ineffective.

- A. Approved Air Gap Separation (AG):
  - 1) All piping shall be above grade from the service connection to the receiving tank.
  - 2) AG shall be located as close to the service connection as practicable.

B. Approved Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (RP) and Approved Double Check Valve Assembly (DC):

- 1) Location of backflow prevention assemblies shall be as close to the service connection as practical or determined by the cross connection control specialist and installed 12 to 36" above grade in a level, horizontal position and readily accessible for testing and maintenance. The District shall have the final authority in determining the required location of a backflow prevention assembly.
- 2) No tees, taps, outlets, or connection between the water main and the backflow prevention assembly is allowed.
- 3) RP shall be installed so that no part of the assembly will be submerged during normal operation or weather condition.
- 4) RP shall not be installed in a confined space.

3.1.6 Periodic Test and Maintenance of Backflow Prevention Assemblies:

Whereas all approved backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested at least once annually by a District approved backflow assembly tester, the District shall administer the backflow testing program as follows:

- A. One testing notice will be mailed to the consumer responsible for the backflow assembly(s) with a sixty (60) day compliance period for testing.
- B. Within thirty (30) days following the compliance period the district may make reasonable effort to notify the consumer and test and repair untested backflow assemblies.
- C. The District shall supply test reports to the tester upon request. The tester shall be responsible to return original complete and legible test reports to the District within five (5) working days of a pass or repair of assembly.
- D. All repairs shall be performed within ten (10) working days.
- E. The District will determine the risk of failed assemblies and discontinue water service if necessary.
- F. All testing, repair charges, and violation fees will be billed to the affected customer.
- G. Air gap separation inspections shall be conducted by a CA-NV AWWA certified cross connection control program specialist.
- H. All records shall be maintained by the District for a period of not less than three (3) years.

3.1.7 Certification of Testers and Repairpersons:

- A. Testing of backflow assemblies shall be conducted by a CA-NV AWWA certified backflow prevention assembly tester that has shown their competency to the District.
- B. Testers must have the proper testing equipment and submit a current (within 12 months) calibration certificate.
- C. All certifications for backflow prevention assembly testers and repairpersons shall be subject to revocation, without appeal, by the District manager.

3.1.8 Establishment of backflow prevention fund:

All fees collected pursuant to this policy shall be used solely to offset the costs incurred by the district to enforce the program set forth in this chapter.

3.1.9 Enforcement:

- A. Failure to comply with the procedures of this chapter and/or failure to install, test, perform necessary maintenance, bypass, remove, or render inoperative an approved backflow prevention assembly as required by this chapter shall be a violation.
  - i. If the manager or cross connection control specialist determines that a customer's violation constitutes a hazard to the potable water supply, the manager or cross connection control specialist may order that water services to the noncomplying customer be discontinued.

- ii. The District shall notify the customer in writing at least thirty (30) days in advance of water service termination. However, if the hazard to the potable water supply is so immediate that a delay in water service termination may pose a threat to public health and safety the manager or cross connection control specialist may terminate water service to the premises without prior written notice.
- iii. The District shall restore water to the premises once the customer has controlled or eliminated the hazard and payed in full all applicable charges and fees.
- iv. The customer or property owner shall be responsible for all applicable disconnection, reconnection and other fees charged by the District relating to the termination of service, and for any other costs incurred by the District associated with the termination of service and/or associated corrective cleanup costs.

Section 3.2 Acceptance:

3.2.1. The District is authorized to make all necessary and reasonable rules and policies with respect to the enforcement of this ordinance. Such rules and policies shall be effective immediately after being filed with the District President, Board of Directors, and Secretary to the Board.

3.2.2 Effective Date. This ordinance shall supercede all previous cross connection control ordinances and shall take effect immediately from the latest date of adoption by the District. Following adoption a copy of this ordinance shall be posted at the Elk Post Office.