

Cross Connection Control Program

Kiowa Homeowners Water Supply Corporation

Last Approved: 08/10/2011

I. Introduction

In accordance with the requirements set forth by the TCEQ, Kiowa Homeowners Water Supply Corporation has officially adopted the state of Texas cross connection control rules to protect the public water supply system. `Cross Connection` is defined as a connection or arrangement of piping or appurtenances through which a backflow could occur. `Backflow` means water of questionable quality, waste, or other contaminants entering a public water supply system due to a reversal of flow. The cross connection control program will take effect immediately upon approval of the TCEQ.

II. Local Ordinance

The authority to carry out and enforce a local cross connection control program will be in accordance with ordinance.

III. Local Inspection

The water superintendent and/or his designated agent shall be responsible for making the initial cross connection inspections and re-inspections to check for the presence of cross connections with the municipal water supply system. Individuals responsible for carrying out the cross connection inspections and re-inspections shall have obtained necessary training through any available manuals on cross connections prevention, including the Cross Connection Rules Manual as published by the TCEQ and attendance of any cross connections training sessions sponsored by the TCEQ or other recognized agencies.

IV. The schedule for inspections shall be in accordance with the following general outline:

1. Known or suspected secondary water supply cross connections shall be inspected first (surface water, Class III wells, recirculated water, etc.).
 2. Known or suspected submerged inlet cross connections will be inspected next.
- In general, emphasis will be placed on making inspections initially of all industrial and commercial establishments or where cross connections are known or suspected to exist. A general areal review will follow in a logical sequence as time permits. Emphasis will be placed on inspecting all industrial and commercial establishments within a period of six months following approval of this program.

V. Schedule for Re-inspection

In order to assure against the hazards of cross connections, it will be necessary to periodically and systematically re-inspect for the presence of cross connections. The schedule for re-

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inspection shall be in accordance with the schedule as noted in the Cross Connection Rules Manual. Whenever it is suspected or known that modifications have taken place with piping systems serving a particular water customer, re-inspections of the premise will be made.

VI. Protective Devices

The methods to protect against hazards of cross connections as outlined in the Cross Connection Rules Manual will be incorporated into the cross connections control program. Whenever any deviation from the recommended methods of protection is contemplated, approval from TCEQ shall first be obtained.

The Chapter 344 regulations (Landscape Irrigation) require the back flow prevention device to be an RP. See below:

344.51(d) If an irrigation system is designed or installed on a property that is served by an on-site sewage facility, as defined in Chapter 285 of this title (relating to On-Site Sewage Facilities), then:

- (1) all irrigation piping and valves must meet the separation distances from the On-Site Sewage Facilities system as required for a private water line in §285.91(10) of this title (relating to Minimum Required Separation Distances for On-Site Sewage Facilities);
- (2) any connections using a private or public potable water source must be connected to the water source through a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly as defined in §344.50 of this title (relating to Backflow Prevention Methods); and
- (3) any water from the irrigation system that is applied to the surface of the area utilized by the On-Site Sewage Facility system must be controlled on a separate irrigation zone or zones so as to allow complete control of any irrigation to that area so that there will not be excess water that would prevent the On-Site Sewage Facilities system from operating effectively.

This requirement was added when Chapter 344 was changed 01/01/09, and there is something of a grandfather clause. See below:

344.52 (a) If an irrigation system is connected to a potable water supply and requires major maintenance, alteration, repair, or service, the system must be connected to the potable water supply through an approved, properly installed backflow prevention method as defined in this title before any major maintenance, alteration, repair, or service is performed.

So for irrigation systems installed after 01/01/09 at a house with an Onsite sewage facility, the back flow prevention device must be an RP. For irrigation systems installed before

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01/01/09 at a house with an Onsite sewage facility, the back flow prevention device must be updated to an RP whenever major maintenance is performed on the irrigation system.

See definition below:

344.1 (30) Major maintenance, alteration, repair, or service—Any activity that involves opening to the atmosphere the irrigation main line at any point prior to the discharge side of any irrigation zone control valve. This includes, but is not limited to, repairing or connecting into a main supply pipe, replacing a zone control valve, or repairing a zone control valve in a manner that opens the system to the atmosphere.

VII. Compliance Time

The time allowed for correction or elimination of any cross connections found shall be as follows:

1. Cross connections which pose an eminent and extreme hazard shall be disconnected immediately and so maintained until necessary protective devices or modifications are made.
2. Cross connections which do not pose an extreme hazard to the water supply system, but nevertheless constitute a cross connection should be corrected within a reasonable period of time. The length of time allowed for correction should be reasonable and may vary depending on the type of device necessary for protection. The water utility shall indicate to each customer where a cross connection is found to exist, and the time period allowed for compliance (30-60 days is usually sufficient time for small devices).

VIII. All testable devices shall be tested upon installation and at an interval to be determined by the water utility and in accordance with the Cross Connection Rules Manual. Records of test results shall be maintained by the water utility. Only individuals approved by the water utility shall be qualified to perform such testing. That individual(s) shall certify the results of his testing.

IX. The water utility shall maintain sufficient and accurate records of its local cross connection control program so as to report annually on the status of the local program to TCEQ on a form provided by the department.