



**CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
WATER UTILITIES DIVISION  
401-435-7741**

**BACKFLOW INFORMATION**

**RESIDENTIAL BACKFLOW (3 UNITS OR LESS)**

Requires the installation of a residential dual check and expansion tank just after the water meter and prior to any plumbing connection.

**COMMERCIAL BACKFLOW, INDUSTRIAL BACKFLOW, AND RESIDENTIAL BACKFLOW (4 UNITS OR MORE)**

Requires the installation of testable backflow assemblies in accordance with the design and testing procedures documented below.

**BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY DESIGN PARAMETERS**

- Domestic Service Backflow Assemblies: Unless otherwise approved by the Water Utilities Division all domestic services shall contain a reduced pressure zone assembly (RPZ) just after the meter and prior to any plumbing connection.
- Fire Service Backflow Assemblies:
  - Unless otherwise approved by the Water Utilities Division all fire services that have no chemical additives in the fire sprinkler system shall contain a double check detector assembly (DCDA) just after the service enters building and prior to any plumbing connection.
  - Unless otherwise approved by the Water Utilities Division all fire services that have chemical additives in the fire sprinkler system shall contain a reduced pressure detector assembly (RPDA) just after the service enters building and prior to any plumbing connection.
- Any assembly selected for installation shall be approved by the [University of Southern California Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research](#)
- RPZ or RPDA installations:
  - Shall be located just after the water meter and prior to any plumbing connection
  - Shall be installed above grade (i.e., not pit or basement installations)
  - Shall be installed such that the relief valve is 18-inches above the finished floor
  - Shall be appropriately drained
  - RPDA assemblies shall contain Neptune T-10 bypass meter that register in cubic feet

- RPDA assembly installations shall allow for minimum fire flows to be met. If necessary, flow calculations should be performed.
- DCDA installations:
  - Shall be located just after the fire service enters the building and prior to any plumbing connection.
  - Shall contain Neptune T-10 bypass meter that register in cubic feet.
  - Installations shall allow for minimum fire flows to be met. If necessary, flow calculations should be performed.

## **BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION PROCEDURE ON A NEW SERVICE**

- Backflow Installations as part of a new water service shall be submitted to the Water Utilities Division as part of an [Application for Water Service](#).

## **BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION PROCEDURE ON AN EXISTING SERVICE**

- Backflow Installations or replacements on existing water services shall comply with the following procedure:
  - Fill out a [Backflow Prevention Device Design Data Sheet](#) and submit to the Water Utilities Division by e-mail at [waterdept@eastprovidenceri.gov](mailto:waterdept@eastprovidenceri.gov)
  - Receive approval from the Water Utilities Division
  - File all necessary permits with [East Providence Plumbing Inspector](#)
  - Once approved for installation, notify the water division 48 hours prior to installation. If the installation is on a fire service the East Providence Fire Department shall be notified.
  - Perform installation and ensure that the assembly is tested immediately after installation (see testing below).

## **BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY TESTING**

- **Backflow assemblies require testing immediately after installation and thereafter annually.**
- Testing shall be performed by a New England Water Works certified tester. The Water Utilities Division Maintains a list of testers [here](#).
- Testing shall be submitted to the Water Utilities Division by utilizing the [East Providence Backflow Website](#)
  - If you are new user contact the Water Utilities Division at 401-435-7741 to setup a Backflow Username & Password
  - If you are an existing user log into the website utilize the login information provided to you by the Water Utilities Division.
  - To look up an assembly utilize either the street number of the property and the serial number of the assembly or just utilize the hazard ID number
- City of East Providence Backflow Assembly Test Reports can be found [here](#). These reports can be submitted by e-mail to [waterdept@eastprovidenceri.gov](mailto:waterdept@eastprovidenceri.gov), but the preferred method is through the [East Providence Backflow Website](#)