

Valley of the Moon Water District and Cross Connection Control



What is a Cross Connection?

- Under California Administrative Code Title 17, a Cross Connection is defined as:
 - “Any unprotected actual or potential connection between a potable water system used to supply water for drinking and any other source or system containing unapproved water or a substance that is not or cannot be approved as safe wholesome, and potable. . .”



How Does this Apply to You?

- In this situation, the well and irrigation system owned by the HOA are the potential health risk. Because the potable water lines from your meter to your house cross the same property as the non-potable lines carrying well/irrigation water, the potential exists that the two systems could become cross connected.
- The California Department of Public Health became aware of this situation during a regular inspection of our facilities and has since issued a letter stating that “. . . the District shall remediate the Cross-Connection situation ...”

How Can I Comply With This Requirement?

- The hope for us here at VOMWD, is that our customers in coordination with their HOA will be able to form some kind of coalition to obtain the best possible value through the economies of scale. In other words, get a great group rate on the purchase installation and testing of the backflow preventers.
- Once the devices are installed, it is the responsibility of the customer to submit the paperwork showing that it passed the initial test. However, the tester will usually take care of that for you (but be sure to ask).

What is the Compliance Timeline?

Customers in different HOAs have unique timelines so please read carefully. You must have your backflow device installed and tested by the date listed below for your HOA.

1. If your HOA is using pond water for irrigation, (Sonoma Greens) the deadline is October 2015.
2. If your HOA is using well water for irrigation, (Temelec, Chanterelle, and Creekside) the deadline is October 2017.
3. If your HOA is using VOMWD water for irrigation, (La Mancha and Country Meadows) you will not need to install a backflow preventer. However before April 2015 at least one member of your HOA Board and at least one of the people on the landscape crew will be required to become certified as a “Site Supervisor” to increase awareness of the potential for cross connections. Also a full shutdown test of your facilities will need to be done and any cross connections fixed.

What Should I Expect During the Installation Process?

- The installation itself will not take long; just a couple of hours of interrupted water service.
- The concrete pad around the device will need to be poured and the redwood cover or lockable Frost Bag will be put into place.



Thank you for viewing this presentation. Remember that backflow devices are an important means to keeping VOMWD drinking water safe and high quality.

