

Backflow Prevention Assemblies And Reasons Why

Landscape Irrigation: RP, RPZ, RPBA Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly

Some typical hazards posed by an irrigation system are:

- Organisms (parasites, insect larvae, pathogens) living in the water of the irrigation system.
- Exposure of the sprinkler heads to fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides in the yard.
- Exposure of the sprinkler heads to fecal material from animals living on the site (dogs, cats, rodents, farm animals).
- Direct connection of chemical additives to the irrigation system.
- Connection of alternative water sources (creeks, rainwater harvesting systems, lakes, private wells, stock tanks, etc.).

Requirements:

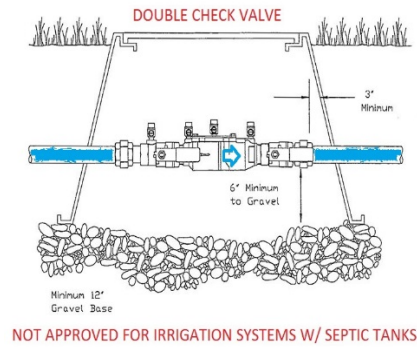
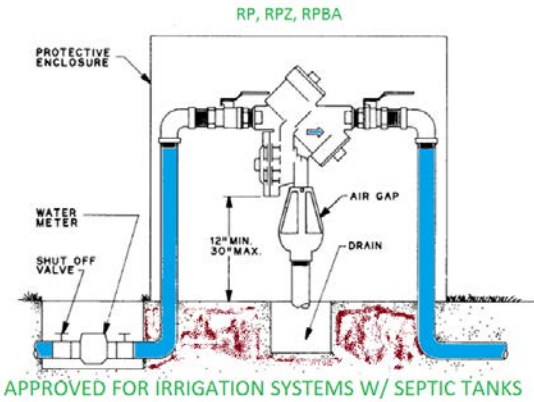
- In Walnut Creek SUD **all** irrigation systems are installed on sites that have an on-site sewage facility (septic tank). The existence of the OSSF elevates the classification of the irrigation system to a **health** hazard requiring the installation of an **RP**.

Testing:

- **RP, RPZ, RPBA** are required to be tested upon **installation** and **annually** thereafter.

Copies of these tests are to be filled at the District's office.

Since before 2009 a Double-Check Valve Assembly was allowed on irrigation systems installed on sites that also had an OSSF. As a result there are currently installed systems that do not have the correct backflow prevention assembly. To correct this if the Double Check valve requires any major maintenance, alteration, repair, or service they **cannot** be repaired and **must be upgraded to the required RP**.



Outside Faucets: HBVB (hose bibb vacuum breaker), anti-siphon faucet

Some typical hazards posed by garden hose are:

- Lawn care aspirators for herbicide, pesticide, and fertilizer application (miracle grow).
- Pressure washing equipment for carpet and automotive cleaners.
- Forcing it into a clogged gutter, downspout, or sewer pipe to flush out the clog
- Letting the end of the hose be submerged in a puddle, bucket, water through, or swimming pools.

Requirements:

- For this reason **all** outside faucets are required to either have a HBVB or an anti-siphon faucet installed.

Anti-siphon faucet



HBVB

RV Parks: RP, RPZ, RPBA (Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly), PVB, SVB

Some typical hazards posed by RV parks:

- Many RVs are sold today with a “sewer flusher” connection which allows the blackwater tank to be flushed.
- “Y Hose Adapters” which enable an RV owner to establish connections from a potable water hose bibb to both the RV’s potable water systems and sewer flusher connection at the same time.

Requirements:

- RV parks are considered a **health** hazard do to the potential associated with blackwater tank flushing so a **RP** is to be install at the meter.
- Any faucets where flushing is allowed must have a **PVB** or **SVB** installed.
- If the RV park currently has a DC (double check valve) installed it cannot be repaired and must be upgraded to a **RP**.

Testing:

- **RP** and **PVB, SVB** are required to be tested upon **installation** and **annually** thereafter. .
- Current **DCs** installed must be tested **annually**.

COPIES OF ALL BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES MUST BE FILLED WITH THE DISTRICT’S OFFICE.

