

Outdoor Water Safety

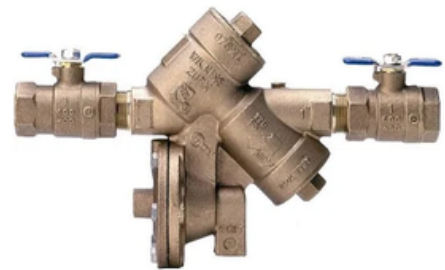
Backflow occurs when a change in water pressure pulls water from your hose, pool, irrigation system, etc. back through the pipes. It can contaminate the water in your house and the public water system. Water pressure changes occur regularly such as when fire hydrants are flushed or when water mains are being repaired.



Always install a hose bibb vacuum breaker (HBVB) on every outside faucet. This inexpensive backflow preventer (\$5-9) is available from your local hardware store.

You are also required to **install a backflow preventer on irrigation systems** that are connected to the city water supply.

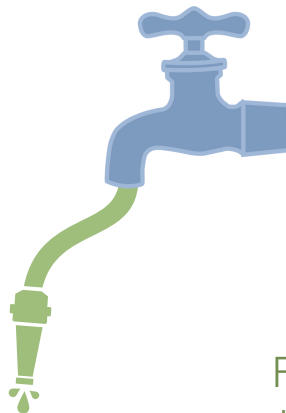
In Davidson County, Metro Code No. 15.12.070



Backflow preventers stop harmful contaminants such as bacteria, chemicals, soap, and dirt from being drawn back into the pipes and our drinking water.

Always leave an air gap between the end of the hose or faucet and the water surface of your pool, watering can, pet water dish, etc.

The air gap should be **at least 2x the diameter of the hose**, but not less than 1 inch.



Note: A more expensive alternative to an air gap is to install a Reduced Pressure Assembly (RPA) type of backflow preventer and have it inspected yearly.

For more information about backflow preventers, **visit Water.Nashville.Gov** or **call 615-862-4872**

