

GUIDELINES FOR VARIANCE REQUEST OF BACKFLOW DEVICE PLACEMENT
Effective May 2016

Metro Water Services requires all backflow devices be located directly behind the meter and/or on the customer side of the right of way. Request for variance to this policy shall be submitted to the MWS Development Services Center as part of the preliminary site utility plans review process. MWS will continue to consider these situations on a case by case basis through our Variance Review Process.

All backflow devices must follow the Metro Water Service Standard Detail for installation and access requirements.

Fire Service Lines – DCVA/DDCVA/RPDA

If variance includes inside placement of fire backflow device, a request shall be submitted prior to obtaining Fire Marshal approval. If the distance between the fire backflow device and the domestic water service tee or public right of way is more than 20 feet, an automatic flushing system must be installed within 5 feet on the front side of the backflow device prior to the number 1 shutoff valve.

Domestic Service Lines - RPBP

Metro Water Services requires installation of a backflow device for all high hazard commercial accounts. Existing devices must be kept in operational order and inspected on an annual basis. Low hazard commercial accounts do not require the installation of a backflow device on domestic water services if approved by Metro Water Services - Cross Connections Inspector. Metro Water Services - Cross Connections Group will inspect all commercial accounts within a 5 year period to determine hazard level.

Irrigation Backflow – RPBP

Metro Water Services requires installation of a backflow device for all irrigation systems. A combination domestic irrigation backflow device must be installed behind the meter with no other tees or connection points.

If an existing backflow device requires replacement, it must be relocated to meet current Metro Water Service Standards for installation and access requirements.

All materials must be in accordance with [MWS published Approved Materials List - Water Distribution \(CLICK HERE TO VIEW LIST\)](#)

For any questions concerning the relocation, refurbishment, or existing backflow inspections please contact the MWS Cross Connections Inspection Group at (615)862-4872 or email mwscrossconnection@nashville.gov.

For any questions concerning new construction please contact the MWS Development Services Center at (615)862-7225 or email mws.developmentservicescenter@nashville.gov.