

# CITY OF FERNLEY

## CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

This program exists in order for the CITY OF FERNLEY to fulfill its responsibilities under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, State of Nevada regulations for the Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Public Water Systems, Lyon County ordinances and CITY OF FERNLEY ordinances. CITY OF FERNLEY has both the responsibility to ensure that unsafe connections to the water system are mitigated, and the authority to take action, including discontinuance of water service, necessary to carry out that responsibility.

**I. The CITY OF FERNLEY plan for inspecting the properties served by the CITY OF FERNLEY to determine the potential risk of cross-connection and backflow.**

1. CITY OF FERNLEY PROPERTIES: Survey CITY OF FERNLEY-owned assemblies and establish compliance.

CITY OF FERNLEY staff will conduct a detailed survey of all CITY OF FERNLEY-owned and operated water production, storage and distribution systems to identify potential cross-connections, and evaluate the degree of hazard. Where needed, approved backflow assemblies will be installed and tested or air gaps will be installed.

2. Implement a public information program, which may include the following:

Public Meetings, information included with water bills, newspaper articles, press releases; information meetings with interested parties such as engineers, landscape contractors, and plumbing contractors. To the extent feasible, these activities will be coordinated with State Health.

3. NEW CONSTRUCTION: Require that new construction comply with current State regulations and CITY OF FERNLEY rules.

CITY OF FERNLEY inspects new construction for cross-connection prevention compliance with the Uniform Plumbing Code, the Manual of Cross-Connection Control, the Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control, and NAC 445A.67185 through 445A.67255 inclusive. Failure to comply with any or all of these established requirements will cause discontinuance of service. CITY OF FERNLEY approval is a prerequisite to final building inspection and approval. New or relocated mechanical backflow prevention assemblies will not be approved until acceptable documentation of testing is received by the CITY OF FERNLEY.

4. RECORD REVIEW AND PRIORITY LIST: CITY OF FERNLEY staff will perform a review of service connection records to evaluate user activities to

determine which service connections require protection from cross-connection. An internal priority will be assigned to each connection reviewed based on the degree of hazard (health/ non-health). First priority connections are those where a health hazard is determined to exist, or that require protection from cross-connection in accordance with NAC 445A or the Uniform Plumbing Code. Second priority connections are all other service connections.

5. ON-SITE WATER USE SURVEYS: CITY OF FERNLEY staff will conduct on-site water use surveys of customer facilities, beginning with the highest priority users identified in the record review. The surveys will include residential service connections. The attached Field Survey Form, or equivalent, will be used. The State Health official may be requested to conduct joint surveys.
6. COMPLAINT NOTIFICATION LETTERS: Those service connections determined to require protection from cross-connection, or present potential health hazards will receive a standardized letter requiring compliance within 60 days. The letter will specify the required type(s) of protection against cross-connection. The notification will state that service will be disconnected if compliance is not achieved and documented within 90 days. In addition, the compliance notification letter will outline the initial testing and ongoing maintenance and periodic testing requirements. The letter will state that the CITY OF FERNLEY may test, or cause to be tested, any backflow prevention assembly or air gap installation connected to the water system, at any reasonable time.
7. COMPLAINT REVIEW AND FINAL NOTIFICATION: Sixty days after mailing the compliance notification letter, CITY OF FERNLEY staff will review records to determine progress towards compliance. Lack of progress will result in a letter, mailed 'return receipt requested' referencing the original notification and stating that service will be disconnected from the water system if compliance is not achieved by the designated date.
8. ON-SITE SURVEYS: CITY OF FERNLEY staff will conduct an on-site survey of second priority connections. A compliance notification letter will be sent to those service connections that are determined to require protection from cross-connection.

**II. CITY OF FERNLEY plan for testing and tracking all primary assemblies. Plan for the annual testing of those assemblies and for the retention of records from the testing.**

1. RECORD KEEPING DATABASE: When conducting the initial system service connection review, CITY OF FERNLEY will establish a database for

program record keeping. CITY OF FERNLEY plans to use Microsoft Access for tracking assemblies, testing schedules, and assembly repairs.

2. TESTING COMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION: At least each year, a test record for each assembly or an air gap inspection report is to be submitted to the CITY OF FERNLEY. If determined to be necessary, CITY OF FERNLEY may require a more frequent testing schedule. Thirty days prior to the anniversary date for air gap inspection or testing of each backflow prevention assembly, notification of the need to test will be transmitted to the service connection. A standard inspection or test and repair form will be attached to the letter. A copy of this form is included at the end of this section. The letter will stipulate that all testing, repairs and re-testing be accomplished, and documentation of air gap inspection or backflow prevention assembly testing be received by the CITY OF FERNLEY within 45 days of mailing. The standard test form required identification of the currently certified backflow prevention assembly tester. Testing performed under this program will be spot-checked. CITY OF FERNLEY may access and test, at its own expense, any assembly at any reasonable time.
3. REPAIR RECORDS: When an assembly is moved, or removed and replaced, or an assembly is repaired, the assembly must then be tested. The standard test and repair form must be completed and provided to the CITY OF FERNLEY within 10 calendar days following the move or repair. Details to be included are listed below.

Parts replaced, with part number and manufacturer name:

Name, address, telephone number of the person who performed the repair or moved the assembly, or of the responsible person at the customer service;  
Copy of post-repair or move assembly test with information on the testers' current valid AWWA or ABPA backflow assembly tester certification.

4. RECORD RETENTION: Assembly test and repair records will be retained by CITY OF FERNLEY for a period of at least three years.

**III. List of the particular assemblies for the prevention of backflow that may be used in the CITY OF FERNLEY or on service connections to the CITY OF FERNLEY:**

1. For new or replacement installations, the assembly must be included in the USC Foundation for Cross-Connection Control Hydraulic Research (USC) list of approved assemblies in effect on the date of on the date of the installation.
2. For existing assemblies, the owner must provide the CITY OF FERNLEY with documentation showing that the assembly is included in the current USC list of approved assemblies or was included in the USC list of approved assemblies on the original installation date. Approval must be obtained from the CITY OF

FERNLEY before a backflow prevention assembly is removed, relocated or replaces.

3. Existing assemblies which were included in the USC list of approved assemblies upon installation, but which are no longer listed may continue to be used in the same application and location, for as long as annual test results indicate that the assembly is functional. De-listed assemblies that fail must be replaced. De-listed assemblies may not be moved.
4. Air gaps must comply with Uniform Plumbing Code requirements.

**IV. Measures the CITY OF FERNLEY will take to enforce the program if any customers of the system fail to comply with the program.**

1. Should any customer fail to comply with any requirements of this program within the allowed time frame, service will be disconnected. Program requirements include:
  - a. Installation and testing of approved assemblies, or air gaps at the location or locations determined by the CITY OF FERNLEY within 90 days following mailing of the initial compliance notification.
  - b. Annual testing of assemblies or air gap inspection report and the CITY OF FERNLEY receipt of results within 45 days of mailing of the testing compliance notification letter. Backflow assembly testers must hold a current Backflow Assembly Tester certificate issued by the America Waterworks Association. All repairs needed must be accomplished, and re-test completed within the 45 day time period.
  - c. Maintenance of installed assemblies in good working condition.
  - d. Notification of the CITY OF FERNLEY upon repair of an assembly, including the CITY OF FERNLEY receipt of test results within 10 days following the activity.
2. Approval must be obtained from the CITY OF FERNLEY before a backflow prevention assembly is removed, relocated or replaced. CITY OF FERNLEY must receive test results within 10 days following the activity.

**V. Schedule for Program Implementation**

1. New Construction: The program is currently effective.
2. CITY OF FERNLEY Internal Survey: Will be completed within six months following program approval.

3. Record Review: Will be completed within one year following program approval.
4. Site Surveys: Surveys of first priority connections will be completed within one year following program approval. Surveys of second priority connections will be completed within two years following program approval.
5. Tracking Program: The tracking program will be implemented concurrent with site survey.
6. Assembly Testing: New backflow assemblies are test upon installation as a prerequisite to construction permit sign-off. Existing assemblies are to be tested within 90 days following mailing of the compliance notification.