



# CITY OF FORT WAYNE

SHARON TUCKER, MAYOR

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## Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention News

From Fort Wayne City Utilities

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### ❖ REMINDER TO ENTER AND PAY FOR YOUR TESTS IN A TIMELY MANNER

Entering your tests and paying for them promptly will prevent your customer from receiving enforcement notices. “Fort Wayne Code of Ordinances, Chapter 52: Water and Watercourses” **requires test results to be submitted within ten calendar days.** Its good practice to submit the test even sooner if the customer is non-compliant to diminish their chance of having their water service terminated. If you have trouble with entering or paying for your test’s entries, please contact Aqua Backflow at (847) 742-2296 or by email at [info@aquabackflow.com](mailto:info@aquabackflow.com).

### ❖ Inspection Tags

IDEM requires that inspection tags be placed on backflow devices after testing. These tags are important in the event of a plumbing inspection, cross connection investigation, a misplaced test report, and prevents a customer’s water from being turned off due to backflow non-compliance. Inspection tag templates are posted on our webpage for you to download, edit, and print for your convenience.

### ❖ Scheduling Backflow Test

There has been an increase in the number of final notices, prior to disconnection, letters sent to customers within the last year. Please encourage customers to schedule their annual backflow device for 2027 once their device is tested this year. This helps mitigate a customer receiving a final notice and reduces the number of emergency phone calls that testers may get regarding the backflow devices.

### ❖ ADDING DEVICES ON [TRACKMYBACKFLOW.COM](https://www.trackmybackflow.com)

#### HOW TO SUBMIT NEW INSTALLS

As you’re probably aware, devices that are brand new installations or existing devices that have never been reported to City Utilities will not be found on the website. Therefore, you will not be able to enter your test results directly, and you must email the report. The initial \$9.95 fee is waived for the first test on a new device. Please note this does not include replacements. To ensure the new device is processed quickly, you may email the test report to [Info@aquabackflow.com](mailto:Info@aquabackflow.com) and [CrossConnectionControl@cityoffortwayne.org](mailto:CrossConnectionControl@cityoffortwayne.org). If the project is being reviewed by City Utilities Development Services, you should also copy [Rick.Seals@cityoffortwayne.org](mailto:Rick.Seals@cityoffortwayne.org). All new devices are reviewed by City Utilities before being added to Trackmybackflow.com. This ensures that they are installed at the correct address and service line on the website.

### ❖ HAVING WATER TURNED ON BY CITY UTILITIES FOR BACKFLOW TESTING

It is the testers responsibility, not the customer, to contact City Utilities to have the water turned back on for testing a backflow device in the event the customer’s water was disconnected due to non-compliance or has an irrigation meter in a pit that is turned off. **Call City Utilities Field Operations at 260-427-2476 to schedule an “On/Off for Backflow Testing” service**

FRONT			BACK	
<b>BACKFLOW DEVICE INSPECTION TAG</b>				
<small>To be completed by a Registered Backflow Tester</small>				
Serial #:	_____			
Manufacturer:	_____			
Model #:	_____			
Size:	_____			
Type:	_____			
Tester Name	Tester #	PIF Date	<b>DO NOT REMOVE</b>  Company Name  Company Phone Number	

Templates are Available on our Webpage

**appointment at least one business day in advance.** These appointments can be scheduled Monday through Friday; weekend appointments are not available.

#### **FOR NON-COMPLIANCE**

A City Utilities' Field Service Representative will meet you on site to turn the water on for testing and will wait 15 minutes while you perform the testing. **If you require more than 15 minutes, the Representative will leave to go to their next appointment while you perform the testing. After the testing is complete, you must call the Representative on their cell phone to inform them of the results.** If the device passes testing, the water will be left on. If the device fails testing, the Representative will return to the site (unless they are still there) and turn the water back off to protect the safety of the public water supply. The results of the test should be submitted immediately to prevent the service from being disconnected again. If you cannot keep the scheduled appointment time, you should call Field Operations to reschedule.

#### ❖ **CONFIRMING TESTER CERTIFICATION**

IDEM is requiring that every two (2) years that certified backflow testers "confirm" that they are still actively testing. IDEM will be sending notices to testers biennially in October of those years. Aqua Backflow as required by IDEM will not be accepting tests from inactive testers. Testers will begin seeing warning signs popping up in Aqua Backflow software when the tester certifications are about to expire, as well as when they have expired. Please visit this link, <https://mylicense.in.gov/everification/Search.aspx>, to if a particular tester is active. **Please share this with all employees to whom this pertains.** For questions, please contact Leslie Ritsmon with IDEM at [lritsmon@idem.in.gov](mailto:lritsmon@idem.in.gov) or call 317-233-7464.

#### ❖ **UPDATED TESTER BUSINESS LISTING—PLEASE REVIEW!**

The Backflow Tester Business Listing has been updated to better serve you and the customers. Please review the enclosed listing and contact Miranda Sparkman at 260-427-2543 or [Miranda.Sparkman@cityoffortwayne.org](mailto:Miranda.Sparkman@cityoffortwayne.org) if any sections are incorrect or if your business was left off by mistake. Please check that your preferred phone number and web address are listed. The latest list is currently available on City Utilities' website. Corrections will be made as soon as they are brought to our attention. Please let us know if there is anything else that you would find helpful to have readily available on our website.

Sincerely,

*Miranda Sparkman, MPH*

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Webpage: [www.cityoffortwayne.org/utilities/backflow-prevention](http://www.cityoffortwayne.org/utilities/backflow-prevention)

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City Utilities welcomes your suggestions for information you would like to see on our webpage or recommendations that could make our program more effective. Please contact our office if you have ideas, questions, or concerns regarding the Cross Connection Control & Backflow Prevention Program.

***Please post and distribute this newsletter to the staff in your office.***