



# THE Pipeline

YOUR CURRENT WATER INFO SOURCE

## Spring 2023 In this edition...

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## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In January, the ACWWA Board of Directors reappointed its officers for the calendar year 2023 as follows:

President – Doyle Tinkey  
Vice President – Perry Deeds  
Treasurer – Brad Cromer  
Secretary – Geri Santos-Rach

Also in January, Arapahoe County Commissioner, Jessica Campbell-Swanson, was sworn-in to serve as a County Commissioner as well as to serve on ACWWA's Board of Directors. Commissioner Campbell-Swanson replaced Nancy Sharpe who was term-limited.

## ACWWA Change to Rules & Regulations for Residential Fire Suppression Systems

ACWWA is modifying our Rules & Regulations to allow for the provision of a combined domestic water and interior fire sprinkler water supply connection under the Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems (RFSS) as defined in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13D standard. This type of design and installation of a combined water service and interior fire sprinkler water supply connection is not currently addressed in ACWWA's Rules and Regulations (R&R). As these types of connections are anticipated to be the future of many residential developments, staff is recommending implementing this new residential fire suppression standard. Modifications to the Rules and Regulations will include:

- Allowance for the combined water demand through a single domestic water meter
- Provision requiring the design engineers to submit hydraulic calculations showing the proposed system would be within the range of standard domestic water meter used by ACWWA – 1" size (minimum)

For more details regarding the Nation Fire Protection Association (NFPA), visit their website:

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Safety-equipment/Home-fire-sprinklers/Fire-Sprinkler-Initiative/NFPA-13D/Common-questions-on-home-fire-sprinkler-installations>

## METER READER



### SAFETY AND ACCESS

During the third week of each month, an ACWWA water technician will be out and about to read the water meters of our customers. Keeping the meter area clean and clear helps them to do their job safely and efficiently. This time of year, that means ensuring that snow is not shoveled on top of the meter lid. In fact, while you're shoveling snow from your walks, it is helpful to clear the lid of the meter as well. And, in just a few months, keeping all landscaping trimmed back off the meter lid is imperative. Trim bushes, trees, and grass that grow close to the cover, including the removal of all branches that hang lower than six feet over the meter. If your meter is not safely accessible, you will be issued an estimated bill for that period.

- ▶ **Watch Your Pets**
- ▶ Keep pets away from the path of your meter.
- ▶ If you have a guard dog for security, please let us know so that we can make sure that our meter readers and other utility personnel are aware of this. We may ask that you arrange to confine the dog during the day that your meter will be read.

# WHAT IS A BACKFLOW and WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

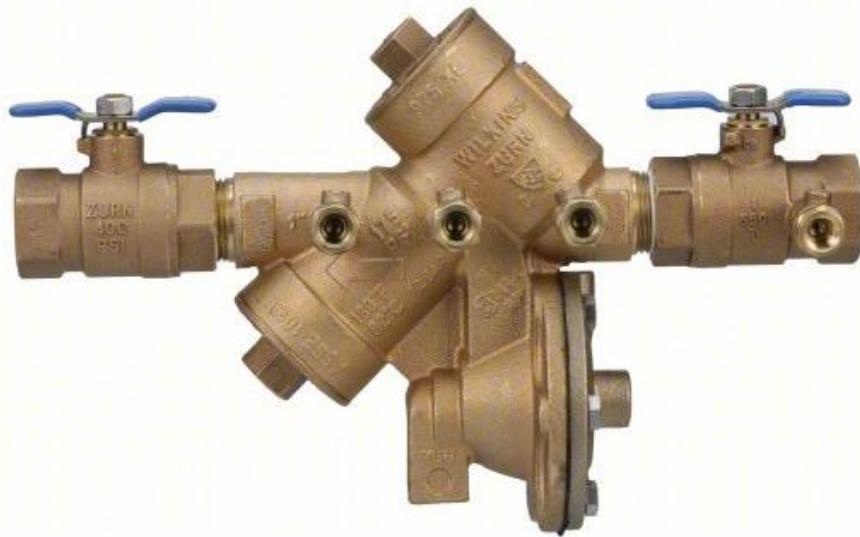
## Cross-Connection Control

A cross-connection is a physical connection or arrangement between potable water system and any potential source of contamination.

Cross-connections are dangerous because they can result in serious chemical or microbiological contamination in drinking water systems. As such, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Health have strict rules for preventing cross-connection contamination. One of the most common methods requires the use of backflow prevention devices (or simply backflows).

Backflows do exactly what their name implies - they prevent potentially contaminated water from flowing back into the rest of the drinking water system.

Backflows come in a variety of configurations. Here an example of what one type looks like:



All commercial\* properties are required to have a backflow. Backflows that are directly connected to ACWWA's potable water system must be tested annually. Commercial irrigation units must be tested no later than **July 1<sup>st</sup>** while commercial fire and potable (usually referred to as "domestic") units must be tested by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year. At this time, residential homes do not require backflow units.

For more information on ACWWA's backflow requirements please refer to [acwwa.com](http://acwwa.com) or direct questions to [backflow@acwwa.com](mailto:backflow@acwwa.com)



Water main flushing is the process of cleaning or “scouring” the interior of water distribution main pipes by sending a rapid flow of water through the main pipes. The benefits of flushing include reducing bacterial growth; identifying missing or broken valves; ensuring that fire hydrants are operational; dislodging and removing sediments and deposit build-up; and reducing taste and odor problems. If after flushing, your water is discolored, try running only the cold water at one faucet for about 5 minutes and you should see that the water becomes clear. (Note that running the hot water, rather than cold water, pulls from the hot water heater and may delay or cause the water to not run clear.) If the water doesn't clear up after 5 minutes, wait for a few hours and try running the cold water only again. If the water is still discolored, please contact us so we can investigate why the water continues to have discoloration. Even if you are in an apartment or don't pay your water bill directly, it's important to let us know.

Occasionally, weather may delay / hinder the flushing process and emergencies may arise where ACWWA's staff is called away from flushing for a day or two. Please call the office at 303-790-4830 or check ACWWA's web page for updates.

## 2023 Flushing Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<b>MARCH 13-21</b>	<b>ELKHORN</b>
<b>MARCH 22-31</b>	<b>CHAPARRAL – ESTANIA - ANTELOPE</b>
<b>APRIL 3-11</b>	<b>FOX FIELD - RIVER RUN - COYOTE RANCH THE LANDING – THE COLONY</b>
<b>APRIL 12-21</b>	<b>SOUTH CREEK – LADERA - COURTNEY DOWNS – THE RESERVE - SAVANA</b>
<b>APRIL 24-28</b>	<b>BRONCOS TRAINING – THE JAIL – CENTENNIAL AIRPORT – COUNTY OFFICES – FED X -CENTENNIAL LEASING – TOP GOLF – OTHER COMMERCIAL</b>
<b>MAY 1-9</b>	<b>DOVE VALLEY - CENTENNIAL EAST – HINSDALE LOOP – FOX RUN - POTOMAC</b>
<b>MAY 10-19</b>	<b>SANCTUARY - VCC - ORCHARDS</b>
<b>MAY 22-31</b>	<b>ALL BUSINESS NORTH OF ARAPAHOE ROAD</b>