

What do I need to do after my backflow preventer has been installed?

Once your backflow preventer has been installed, it must be tested by a licensed tester to ensure that it is working properly. Once the device has been tested, a copy of the test must be returned to Dalton Utilities.

If your plumbing contractor cannot provide you with a licensed tester, the Georgia Water and Pollution Control Association (GW&PCA) has a website you can visit to find a licensed tester in your area. The web address is www.gwpca.org - click on Backflow Program, then click on Licensed Testers and sort by city. You can call GW&PCA at 770-618-8690 for assistance if you do not have access to the Internet.

Helpful Safety Tips To Protect Your Drinking Water From Contamination

- Never submerge a free running hose in water.
- Never leave a hose submerged in standing water without proper backsiphonage protection.
- Never use a hose to spray toxic chemicals without “proper” backsiphonage protection.

Protect your employees and neighbors from “potential” hazards by protecting your water supply from backflow contamination.

For more information about backflow prevention and cross connection control, contact Dalton Utilities for assistance at 706-529-1148.



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Backflow Prevention

**An Informative Guide
from Dalton Utilities**



Backflow Prevention

What is backflow?

Backflow is the reversal of flow in a water system from the normal or intended direction.

Why is backflow prevention necessary?

To prevent any potential contaminants or pollutants from entering our water distribution system from a customer's plumbing system, either from backpressure or backsiphonage.

Who is affected?

All commercial and industrial customers that have water service from Dalton Utilities.

Where does a backflow preventer need to be installed?

Backflow preventers must be installed on the customer's side of all water meters before the first point of use.

How do I know if I have a backflow preventer or who do I contact to have a backflow preventer installed?

Any plumbing contractor who has a current Master Plumbing License from the State of Georgia can assess your plumbing to determine if you already have a backflow preventer installed. If not, they can assist you with any backflow prevention installation needs.

How do I know what type of backflow preventer is needed for my type of business?

Backflow prevention is broken down into two categories, high hazard and low hazard. The type of device required for each type customer is listed below.

High Hazard

High hazard customers must install a Reduced Pressure Zone (R.P.Z.) device.



Reduced Pressure Zone Device

- Medical facilities
- Car washes
- Plating facilities
- Coating operations
- Industries utilizing hazardous chemicals
- Battery and automobile parts manufacturing
- Metal manufacturing: cleaning, processing or fabrication
- Oil and gas production: storage or transmission properties
- Carpet and textile manufacturing
- Paper or paper product plants
- Veterinary facilities
- Laundries
- Dry cleaning
- Dyeing operations

Low Hazard

Low hazard customers must install a Double Check Valve device.

- Food service
- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Dairies
- Bottling plants
- Manufacturing (if not listed under high hazard)
- Service stations and garages
- Single and multistoried commercial offices and retail outlet stores
- Apartments and mobile home parks (when service connection serves more than 15 or more units)
- Food processing
- Printing Shops
- Motels
- Cold storage
- Schools and churches



Double Check Valve Device