

Water Safety

Properly working backflow prevention assemblies are a critical element in providing safe drinking water to your home or place of business. It is equally important to have backflow protection for the water distribution system as it is to manufacture safe drinking water at the treatment plant. Correct testing and repair of backflow prevention assemblies helps to ensure that contaminants do not enter the public water supplies and endanger the public.

You will be hiring a contractor to determine if the backflow prevention assembly is working properly and if necessary, to be repaired. (Not just to please the water district but to protect you and your interests). This brochure is intended to help you get what you pay for.

It is very important to remember that information is your best defense against unethical testers and contractors. If you have any questions about a tester or testing company, contact your water utility.

Knowledge is Power!

Testers and testing companies may be listed with your water utility, in the yellow pages or you can visit www.BPECC.us to find testers listed by counties where they test. Testers and testing companies have provided their information here to show where in the state they will test. These testers have requested to be on this list. The list is not all inclusive and is not an endorsement of any tester listed.

Be a smart consumer and ask questions up front so you can hire a tester you are comfortable doing business with.

For more information:

Colorado Backflow Prevention Association

Visit us online at www.backflow.org.

Contact us by email at info@backflow.org.

Or visit the

American Backflow Prevention Association

online at www.abpa.org.

This brochure is being provided to the
citizens of **Golden**
with the assistance of the
Colorado Backflow Prevention Association.

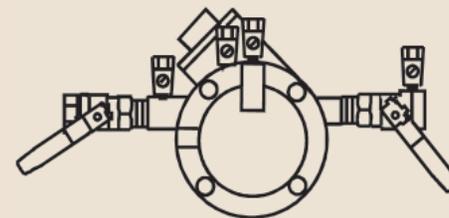


City of
Golden

Contact the City of Golden,
for more information, by email at
backflow@cityofgolden.net.



How to Select a Certified Backflow Assembly Tester

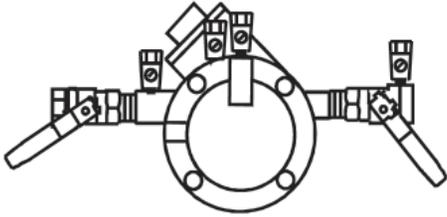


**Colorado Backflow
Prevention Association**

www.backflow.org

Who Should You Hire?

When you need your backflow prevention assemblies tested, how do you know who to hire? Here are some suggestions that we hope will help you protect yourself and the quality of the drinking water.



First, check with your water utility. Some utilities have a list of Certified Testers or companies that are allowed to operate in their district. The utility may require the tester or company to be licensed or certified in their district, or they may have other requirements you should be aware of before you hire a tester.

There are a few steps to select a tester or testing company. Ask all the questions you feel necessary to be confident that you are hiring a competent tester that will keep you in compliance with your utility's requirements. Testers should be happy to explain the use of backflow prevention assemblies, their function and how they protect the quality of the drinking water.

This pamphlet is designed as a guide to help the consumer choose a certified backflow prevention assembly tester. CBPA cannot be responsible for any damage which may occur to any backflow prevention assembly, irrigation system, plumbing system or component thereof as a result of using these guidelines.

Here are a few suggested questions you should ask the tester or company before you hire them to test your assemblies.

- **Are their certifications current?**

The Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations require that the tester be currently certified by:

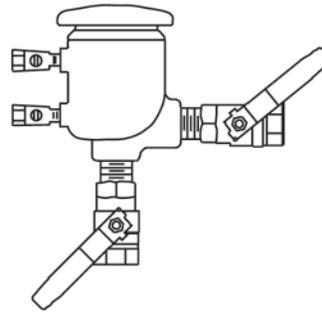
ABPA

(American Backflow Prevention Association)

-or-

ASSE

(American Society of Sanitary Engineering)



- **How long has the company been in business? How many years experience does the tester have?**

- **Can the company provide references?**

- **Is the company or tester registered with the Colorado Division of Fire Safety?**

If the test is to be done on a fire suppression system, the tester or company **must** be registered with the **Colorado Division of Fire Safety**.

(This **only** applies to backflow prevention assemblies on fire suppression systems.)

Other questions you should consider asking before hiring a tester.

- **Does the company have liability and Workers Compensation Insurance?**

Liability insurance protects you from any damages caused by the tester. Without it you would be forced to sue the tester who may have limited assets. Workers Compensation insurance protects you from liability for injuries incurred by the tester.

- **How soon will the utility receive the test report from the tester?**

Water Utilities have deadlines for submittal of backflow tests. You could get past due notification or fined if the utility does not receive the report on time.

- **What is the cost for the test?**

- **Are discounts offered for multiple tests?**
(if you have more than one backflow prevention assembly)

- **Are there additional costs?**

- Trip charges
- Gas surcharges
- Mileage charges

- **What is the cost for repairs if needed?**

- **Are there multiple trip charges incurred if they need to leave to get parts?**

