

**WEST CARTERET WATER CORPORATION**  
**4102 Hwy 24, Newport, NC 28570**  
**(252) 393-1515 – Office      (252) 393-1540 - Fax**

**Do you need a RPZ for Cross Connection Prevention?**

Public Water Supply requires that all public water systems have an active cross connection control plan (CCCP) and a certified operator employed to ensure the protection of your water system from contamination. A **cross-connection** is illegal and can be found where an approved water source is connected with an unapproved water source or potentially harmful connection. Backflow preventers keep water from re-entering the public water system's lines once it has passed through the meter. West Carteret Water Corporation has always provided some form of backflow prevention devices. In the development of a cross connection control policy, where possible, we have used the guidance of Public Water Supply, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Plumbing Code.

Since the purpose of this policy is to protect the water system and customers from potentially harmful sources in the event of backsiphonage or backflow, West Carteret Water Corporation began requiring a reduced pressure zone backflow preventer (RPZ) when we developed our CCCP policy in 2006. The RPZ must be used at all commercial accounts, as well as, residential accounts that provide water to irrigation systems, swimming pools, and docks along with other potential hazards. The account holder is required to install an AWWA (American Water Works Association) and USC (University of Southern California) approved RPZ backflow preventer using the following guidelines:

1. Installation

- a. When contracted by the account holder, the installation must be completed by a licensed plumber.
- b. The RPZ must be installed within 5 feet of the water meter using an ASSE 1013 approved RPZ model.
  - i. Residential - (see reverse side for recommendations)
  - ii. Commercial – To be specified and/or provided by WCWC. The latter subject to applicable fees.
- c. No other connections will be allowed between the meter and RPZ.
- d. The RPZ should be covered and properly anchored to the ground or a concrete pad. Always allow for proper box drainage according to RPZ manufacture specifications.
- e. The cover must be ASSE 1060 approved and have adequate access for maintenance and testing.
- f. Additional insulation is advised to prevent damage from cold weather. However, insulation efforts should not hinder the ability to test the device.

2. Testing & Certification

- a. Public Water Supply and WCWC requires that these devices be tested immediately after installation and then on a yearly basis thereafter.
- b. This procedure must be handled by a certified backflow cross connection tester who must also be approved by our Operator in Responsible Charge. **(Since their certifications must be renewed, contact our office for a current listing of approved testers and installers.)**
- c. Once tested, a copy of the testing report must be provided to WCWC. This requirement will be considered delinquent if testing results are not provided within 30 days following the anniversary testing date. For past due inspections, WCWC will contact a certified tester and the charges along with administrative fees will be billed to the customer's account.

3. Retest Certifications for Failed Devices

- a. When a RPZ does not pass inspection, it must be repaired by a certified tester or plumber immediately.
- b. Afterwards, it must be tested following the guidelines provided.

The initial deadline for this installation was July 1, 2007 and has been extended each year due to the expense and high demand. RPZs can be fairly expensive to install if contracted. Because of this, your Board of Directors has extended in the past, but request that everyone comply as quickly as possible to prevent a possible interruption of service at some point in the future.

West Carteret Water Corporation  
Cross Connection Control Program  
Approved RPZ's and Contractors

WCWC recommended residential ASSE 1013 Approved RPZ Models (3/4" – 2"):

- ◆ Wilkins Model 975 XL
- ◆ Wilkins Model 375
- ◆ Watts Series
  - Series 909
  - Series 009
  - Series 919

Commercial RPZs will be specified and/or provided by WCWC. The latter subject to applicable fees.

Installers must be a licensed plumber.

WCWC Approved Installer:

- ◆ Plumb Crazy  
License # 31035  
114 Cedar Ln  
Cedar Point, NC 28584  
(252) 503-7141

WCWC Approved Tester:

- ◆ SafeFlow  
P O Box 2913  
Surf City, NC 28445  
(910) 548-6777  
safeflownc@gmail.com