

1 COBB AREA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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6
7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, COBB AREA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

8
9 COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

10
11 ORDINANCE NO. 1- 2024

12
13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND UPDATING DISTRICT CROSS

14
15 CONNECTION CONTROL REGULATIONS AND ADOPTING BY

16
17 REFERENCE THE STATE WATER RESOURCE CONTROL BOARD'S

18
19 CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL POLICY HANDBOOK.

20
21 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COBB AREA COUNTY WATER

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23 DISTRICT ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:
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3 ORDINANCE 1- 2024, CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL REGULATION
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5 Article 1.1- Purpose

6 The purpose of this Ordinance is:

- 7 a. To protect the public water supply against actual or potential cross connections
8 by isolating within the premise contamination that may occur due to an
9 unknown or unauthorized cross connection on the premises.
10 b. To eliminate existing connections between drinking water systems and auxiliary
11 sources of water that are not approved as safe and potable for human
12 consumption.
13 c. To eliminate cross connections between drinking water systems and sources of
14 contamination.
15 d. To prevent all future cross connections.
16

17 This rule is pursuant to the State of California Water Resources Control Board's
18 Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) which requires
19 mandatory compliance with the CCCPH by all public water systems. The
20 provisions of the CCCPH shall prevail over any inconsistent provisions
21 contained in this Ordinance. The District Secretary shall maintain 3 copies of the
22 CCCPH at all times in the office of the District for examination by the public. A
23 copy of the CCCPH is attached as Exhibit 'A' and is hereby adopted and
24 incorporated into this Ordinance as is fully set forth.
25

26 It is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation at anytime to make or
27 maintain or cause to be made or maintained, temporarily or permanently, for any
28 period of time whatsoever, any cross connection between plumbing pipes or
29 water fixtures being served with water by the District and any other source of
30 water supply or to maintain any sanitary fixture or other appurtenances or
31 fixtures which by reason of their construction may cause or allow backflow of
32 water or other substances into the water supply system of the District and/or
33 service of water pipes or fixtures of any customer of the District.
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1 Article 1.2- Definitions

- 2 a. Air Gap Separation or AG: Means a physical break between a supply pipe and
3 a receiving vessel. The air gap shall be at least twice the diameter of the
4 supply pipe measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel and at a
5 minimum no less than one inch.
6
- 7 b. Approved Backflow Prevention Device: Meaning devices which have passed
8 laboratory and field evaluation test and meet the American Water Works
9 Association (AWWA) standard.
10
- 11
- 12 c. Approved Water Supply: This term means any potable water supply
13 regulated by the State of California.
14
- 15 d. Auxiliary Water Supply: Any water supply on or available to the premises
16 other than the approved water supply.
17
- 18
- 19 e. AWWA Standard: This is the official standard developed and approved by
20 the American Water Works Association.
21
- 22 f. Backflow: Means an undesired or unintended reversal of flow of water
23 and/or other liquids, gases, or other substances into a public water system's
24 distribution system or approved water supply.
25
- 26 g. Cross-Connection: Any actual or potential connection or structural
27 arrangement between a public water system, including a piping system
28 connected to the public water system and located on the premises of a water
29 user or available to the water user, and any source or distribution system
30 containing liquid, gas, or other substances not from an approved water
31 supply.
32
- 33 h. Double Check Valve Assembly or DC: An assembly consisting of two
34 independently-acting internally-loaded check valves, with tightly closing
35 shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly (upstream and down
36 stream of the two check valves) and fitted with test cocks that enable accurate
37 field testing of the assembly. This type of assembly may only be used to
38 isolate low hazard cross connections. An example of an approved DC
39 assembly can be found on Diagram 3, Appendix C of the CCCPH.

- 1 i. Health Agency: The term health agency means the California Department of
2 Health Services, or the local health agency with respect to small water
3 systems.
- 4
- 5 j. High Hazard Cross-Connection: A cross-connection that poses a threat to the
6 potability or safety of the public water supply. Materials entering the public
7 water supply through a high hazard cross-connection are contaminants or
8 health hazards. Examples are available in Appendix D of the CCCPH.
- 9
- 10 k. Local Health Agency: The term local health agency means the County health
11 authority.
- 12
- 13 l. Low Hazard Cross-Connection: A cross-connection that has been found to not
14 pose a threat to the potability or safety of the public water supply but may
15 adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the potable water supply. Materials
16 entering the public water supply through a low hazard cross-connection are
17 pollutants or non-health hazards.
- 18
- 19 m. Person: An individual, corporation, company, association, partnership,
20 municipality, public utility, or other entity.
- 21
- 22 n. Premises: Means any and all areas on a customer's property which are served
23 or have the potential to be served by the public water system.
- 24
- 25 o. Public Water System or PWS: A System for the distribution of potable water to
26 the public for human consumption which has fifteen or more service
27 connections or regularly serves an average of twenty-five individuals daily at
28 least sixty days out of the year.
- 29
- 30 p. Recycled Water: Is wastewater which as a result of treatment is suitable for
31 uses other than potable use.
- 32
- 33 q. Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly or RP: An
34 assembly with two independently-acting internally-loaded check valves, with
35 a hydraulically operating mechanically independent differential-pressure
36 relief valve located between the check valves and below the upstream check
37 valve. The assembly shall have shut-off valves located upstream and
38 downstream of the two check-valves, and test cocks to enable accurate field

1 testing of the assembly. An example of an approved RP can be found on
2 Diagram 5, Appendix C of the CCCPH.

- 3
- 4 r. Service Connection: Refers to the point of connection of a customer's pipeline
5 to the water supplier's distribution main line.
- 6
- 7 s. Water supplier: Refers to the persons who own or operate the approved water
8 supply system.
- 9
- 10 t. Water User: Means any person obtaining water from an approved water
11 supply system.
- 12

13 Article 1.3 Cross-Connection Protection Requirements

14 a. General Provisions:

15 (1) All premises shall undergo a cross-connection survey to be conducted by a
16 licensed Cross-Connection Control Survey Specialist to determine the
17 degree of hazard as well as the proper backflow prevention assembly. If
18 the Survey Specialist is denied access the district will prescribe an RP at the
19 meter.

20

21 (2) All Cross-Connection Survey's shall be performed by the Cobb Area
22 County Water District (District).

23

24 b. Unprotected cross-connections with the PWS are strictly prohibited.

25 (1) Whenever backflow protection has been found necessary, the District
26 will require the water user to have an approved and proper backflow
27 prevention assembly installed. The water user shall have the option to
28 request the District install the proper backflow prevention assembly, or
29 a District approved installer to install the device.

30

31 (2) Wherever backflow protection has been installed on a water supply line
32 entering a water user's premises, then any and all water supply lines
33 from the District's mains entering such premises, buildings, or
34 structures shall be protected by an approved backflow prevention
35 assembly. The type of assembly to be installed shall be in accordance
36 with this Ordinance and the requirements of the CCCPH.

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1 c. Where Protection is Required:

- 2 (1) Each service connection from the District water system for supplying
3 water to premises having an auxiliary water supply shall be protected
4 against backflow of water from the premises into the PWS with an RP.
5 (2) Each service connection from the District water system supplying water
6 to any premises on which any substance is handled in such fashion as
7 may allow its entry into the District water system shall be protected
8 against backflow of the water from the premises into the PWS. This shall
9 include the handling of processed waters and waters originating from
10 the PWS which have been subjected to deterioration in sanitary quality.
11 (3) Backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed on the service
12 connection to any premises having:
13 I. Internal cross-connections that cannot be permanently corrected and
14 controlled to the satisfaction of District.
15 II. Intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions
16 of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it
17 impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not cross-connection
18 exists.
19 III. On all new residential and commercial construction.

20 d. Type of Protection Required:

- 21 (1) The type of protection that shall be provided to prevent backflow into
22 the approved water supply shall be commensurate with the degree of
23 hazard that exists on the customer's premises. The type of protective
24 device that may be required (listed in increasing levels of protection)
25 Include: Double Check Valve Assembly (DC), Reduced Pressure
26 Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly (RP), and an Air-Gap
27 Separation (AG). The water user may choose a higher level of protection
28 than required by the District. The minimum types of backflow
29 protection required to protect the approved water supply, at the water
30 user's connection to the premises with varying degrees of hazard are
31 given Table 1. Situations which are not covered in Table 1 shall be
32 evaluated on a case-by-case basis and the appropriate backflow
33 protection shall be determined by the District.

Table 1

TYPE OF BACKFLOW PROTECTION REQUIRED

Degree of Hazard

Minimum type
of backflow
prevention

1. Sewage and Hazardous Substances:

- a. Premises where the public water system is used to supplement the recycled water supply. **AG**
- b. Premises where there are wastewater pumping facilities and/or treatment plants and there is no interconnection with the PWS. This does not apply to a single-family residence that has a sewage lift pump. An RP may be used in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. **AG**
- c. Premises where recycled water is used and there are no interconnection with the PWS. An RP may be used in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. **AG**
- d. Premises where hazardous substances are handled in any manner in which the substances may enter the PWS. This does not include a single-family residence that has a sewage lift pump. An RP may be used in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. **AG**
- e. Premises where there are irrigation systems into which fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, or any other potentially hazardous or dangerous substances are or could be distributed. A DC may be used in lieu of an RP if approved by the District. **RP**

2. Auxiliary Water Sources and Supplies

- a. Premises where there is an unapproved auxiliary source and or an auxiliary water supply. An RP may be used in lieu of an AG if approved by the District. **AG**

1 3. Fire Protection Systems

- 2 a. Premises where the fire system is directly supplied from the PWS. DC
3
4 b. Premises where the fire system is directly supplied from the PWS AG
5 and is interconnected with an auxiliary water supply. An RP
6 may be used in lieu of an AG if approved by the District.
7
8 c. Premises where the fire system is supplied from the PWS and RP
9 where either elevated storage tanks or fire pumps which intake
10 water from auxiliary reservoirs or supplies or if tanks are used.
11
12 4. Premises where entry is restricted so that cross-connection RP
13 surveys cannot be performed with sufficient frequency or
14 at sufficiently short notice to assure that cross-connections
15 do not exist.
16
17 5. Premises where there is repeated history or violations of RP
18 cross-connections being established or re-established.
19
20 6. Any commercial premises having auxiliary water supplies RP
21 swimming pools, storing, or having the potential to store
22 chemicals, or any other potentially hazardous and dangerous
23 substances.

24 Article 1.4 Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- 25 a. Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies:
26 (1) Only backflow prevention assemblies which have been approved by the
27 District shall be acceptable for installation by a water user connected to the
28 PWS. All backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed to the current
29 District requirements and specifications. Also, shall be an approved
30 manufacturer and model recognized and accepted by the District. The District
31 shall be contacted with any and all installations, and the District must
32 approve said installation prior to any work being performed.
33
34 (2) The District will maintain a list of approved backflow prevention assemblies
35 in the District office for all customers to see upon request.
36

1 (3) Backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed in accordance with the
2 CCCPH. The location of the assemblies shall be as close as practical to the
3 water user's connection. The District shall have the final authority in
4 determining the location of all backflow prevention assemblies.

5 I. Air-gap Separation or AG: The approved AG shall be located on the customer's
6 side of the service connection and as close to the service connection as is possible.
7 All piping from the service connection to the receiving vessel shall be above
8 grade and be entirely visible. No water use shall be provided from any point
9 between the service connection and the air-gap separation. The water inlet
10 piping shall terminate a distance of at least two times the inlet pipes diameter
11 and in no case less than one inch.

12 II. Reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly or RP: The
13 approved RP shall be installed on the customer's side of the service connection
14 and as close to the service connection as is possible. The assembly shall be
15 installed a minimum of twelve inches above grade and a maximum of thirty-six
16 inches above grade, measured from the bottom of the assembly with a minimum
17 of twelve inches of side clearance. The assembly shall be covered with an
18 insulation bag to prevent damage from freezing and shall be installed so that it is
19 readily accessible for testing and maintenance.

20 III. Double check valve assembly or DC: The approved DC shall be installed on
21 the customer's side of the service connection and as close to the service
22 connection as possible. The assembly shall be installed a minimum of twelve
23 inches above grade and a maximum of thirty-six inches above grade, measured
24 from the bottom of the assembly with a minimum of twelve inches of side
25 clearance. The assembly shall be covered with an insulation bag to prevent
26 damage from freezing and shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for
27 testing and maintenance.

28 b. Backflow Prevention Assemblies Testing and Maintenance

29 (1) The owner of any premises on which, or on account of which, backflow
30 prevention assemblies are installed, shall have said assembly tested by either
31 the District or by a certified tester who has demonstrated competency to the
32 District. All backflow prevention assemblies must be tested at least annually
33 and immediately after installation, relocation, or repair. Should an assembly
34 fail an annual test. The owner shall be given thirty days to become compliant
35 or such other reasonable term determined by the District. Failure to become
36 compliant or to contact the District office shall result in termination of the
37 water service. The owner shall have the option of requesting the District to

1 perform the necessary repairs or the owner shall contract a District approved
2 installer to make repairs. The District may require more frequent testing of an
3 assembly if determined to be necessary. No assembly shall be placed back in
4 service unless it is functioning as required. A report in a form acceptable to
5 the District shall be filed with the District each time a device is tested,
6 relocated, or repaired. These assemblies serviced, repaired, or replaced
7 whenever they are found to be defective and all costs of testing, repairs,
8 maintenance, or replacement are solely those of the water user.

9
10 (2) The District shall supply affected water user's a list of approved backflow
11 prevention assembly testers. The District shall notify affected water user's by
12 mail when annual testing is needed and also upon request provide a copy of
13 completed test forms which must be filled out each time an assembly is tested
14 or repaired.

15
16 (3) Upon request, the District will test a backflow prevention assembly to fulfill
17 the requirements of this ordinance. The Customer will be charged for the test
18 and any maintenance found necessary to keep the assembly in working order
19 on the next regular water bill.

20
21 c. Backflow Prevention Assembly Removal

22 (1) Approval must be obtained from the District prior to any backflow
23 prevention assembly being removed, relocated, or replaced.

- 24 I. Removal: The use of an assembly may be discontinued and the assembly
25 may be removed from service upon presentation of sufficient evidence to
26 the District to verify that a hazard no longer exists and is not likely to be
27 created in the future;
- 28 II. Relocation: The assembly may be relocated following confirmation by the
29 District that the relocation will continue to provide the required protection
30 and satisfy all installation requirements. A retest will be required following
31 the relocation of the assembly;
- 32 III. Repair: An assembly may be removed for repair, provided the water is
33 either discontinued until the repair is completed and the assembly is
34 returned to service, or the service connection is equipped with other
35 backflow prevention approved by the District. A retest will be required
36 following the repair of the assembly;
- 37 IV. Replacement: Backflow assembly replacement will occur when the
38 assembly housing is beyond repair such as a crack in the housing itself,
39 when an assembly is considered obsolete and repair parts can no longer be

1 obtained, or when a “grandfathered in” assembly fails and is no longer the
2 accepted assembly for the degree of hazard. The owner shall be given
3 thirty days or such other reasonable terms to be determined by the District
4 to replace any broken/failed assembly and become compliant. Failure to
5 become compliant or to contact the District office shall result in termination
6 of the water service. All assembly replacement may be performed by the
7 District or by a District approved installer.

8 Article 1.5 User Supervisor

- 9 a. At each premises where it is deemed necessary, by the District. A User
10 Supervisor shall be designated by and at the expense of the water user. This User
11 Supervisor shall be responsible for the monitoring of the backflow prevention
12 assemblies and for avoidance of cross-connections. In the event of a high hazard
13 substance or a low hazard substance getting into the PWS due to a cross-
14 connection on the premises, the District shall be promptly notified by the User
15 Supervisor so that appropriate measures may be taken to overcome the incident.
16 The water user shall inform the District of the User Supervisor’s identity on an
17 annual basis or whenever they are replaced by another User Supervisor.

18 Article 1.6 Administrative Procedures

19 a. Cross-Connection Surveys

- 20 (1) The District shall review all requests for new services to determine if backflow
21 prevention is needed. All plans’ specifications must be submitted to the
22 District for review of possible cross-connection hazards as a condition of
23 service for all new service connections.
24
25 (2) The District may require an on-premises survey to evaluate cross-connection
26 hazards. The District will transmit a written notice requesting an inspection
27 appointment to each water user. Any customer who cannot or will not allow
28 an on-premises survey of their appurtenances shall be required to have an RP
29 installed directly after their meter.
30
31 (3) The District may require additional surveys for cross-connection hazards of
32 any premises to which it serves water. The District will transmit a written
33 notice requesting an inspection appointment to each water user. Any
34 customer who cannot or will not allow an on-premises survey of their
35 appurtenances shall be required to have an RP installed directly after their
36 meter.
37

1 b. Customer Notification

2 (1) The District will notify the water user of the survey findings, listing corrective
3 action to be taken if required. A period of thirty days or such other reasonable
4 terms determined by the District to complete all corrective action required
5 including installation of a backflow prevention assembly.

6
7 (2) A second notice will be sent to each water user who does not take the required
8 corrective action prescribed in the first notice within the thirty-day period
9 allowed. The second notice will give the water user a two-week period to take
10 the required corrective action. If no action is taken in the two-week period the
11 District shall terminate water service to the affected customer until the
12 required corrective actions are taken.

13 c. Customer Notification for Testing and Maintenance

14 (1) The District will notify each affected water user when it is time for their
15 backflow prevention assembly to be tested. This written notice shall give the
16 customer thirty days to have the assembly tested and provide the District with
17 the completed approved form.

18
19 (2) A second notice shall be sent to each customer who has not had their backflow
20 prevention assembly tested in the first thirty days that the first notice allowed.
21 The second notice will give the customer two weeks to have their backflow
22 assembly tested. If no action is taken within these allotted two weeks the
23 District shall terminate the water service until the assembly is scheduled for
24 testing.

25 Article 1.7 Water Service Termination

26 a. General

27 When the District encounters water users that represent a clear and immediate
28 hazard to the PWS that cannot be immediately abated, the District shall institute
29 the procedure for termination of the Districts water service from the hazard.
30

31 b. Basis for Termination

32 Conditions or water users that create a basis for water service termination shall
33 include, but not limited to, the following items:

- 1 (1) Refusal to install the required backflow prevention assembly.
- 2 (2) Refusal to test a backflow prevention assembly.
- 3 (3) Refusal to make necessary repairs to a backflow prevention assembly.
- 4 (4) Refusal to replace a faulty or inadequate backflow prevention assembly.
- 5 (5) Having a direct or indirect connection between the PWS and a sewer line.
- 6 (6) Having a direct or indirect connection between the PWS and a system or
- 7 equipment containing high hazards.
- 8 (7) Having a direct or indirect connection between the PWS and a system or
- 9 equipment containing low hazards.
- 10 (8) Any situation which presents an immediate health hazard to the PWS.

11

12

13 c. Water Service Termination Procedures

- 14 (1) For conditions 1,2,3, or 4, the District shall terminate service to a customer's
- 15 premises after two written notices have been sent specifying the corrective
- 16 action needed and the time period in which it must be done. If no action is
- 17 taken within the allotted time water service shall be terminated.
- 18 (2) For conditions 5,6,7, or 8, the District will take the following steps:
- 19
- 20 I. Make reasonable effort to advise the customer of intent to terminate
- 21 their water service.
- 22 II. Terminate water service and lock service valve. The Water service will
- 23 remain locked and inactive until corrections to each violation have been
- 24 approved by the District.

25 Article 1.8 Requirements for Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers

- 26 a. All backflow prevention assemblies are required to be tested at the time of
- 27 installation and annually from that point forward. The owner of the backflow
- 28 preventer shall have the option to request the District to test their device or
- 29 contract with a District approved tester. Failure to have a backflow prevention
- 30 assembly tested annually will result in the water service being terminated until
- 31 the owner has the device tested and is compliant.

- 1 b. Each contracted tester must have a current certification by the
2 California/Nevada section of the American Water Works Association. A copy of
3 this certification must be on file with the District.
4
- 5 c. A current list of approve backflow prevention assembly installers and testers and
6 a list of the Districts current rates shall be maintained at the District office.

7 Article 1.9 Conflicts, Severability, and Posting

8 a. Conflicts With other Ordinances and Resolutions

9 (1) All other ordinances or resolutions in conflict herewith are repealed to the
10 extent of such and not further.

11 b. Severability

12 (1) If any part of this ordinance is found to be unlawful by a court of competent
13 jurisdiction, only that portion found to be unlawful is null and void. All other
14 articles, sub articles, and provisions of this ordinance shall remain in full force
15 and effect.

16 c. Effective Date

17 (1) This ordinance shall be effective as of July 1st, 2024, after its adoption by the
18 District's Board of Directors.

19 d. Publication - Posting

20 (1) The Board Directs the publication of a summary of the proposed ordinance.
21 The summary shall be prepared by the District Secretary. The summary shall
22 be published and a certified copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance
23 shall be made available to the public upon request to the District Secretary of
24 the Board at least five days prior to the board meeting at which the proposed
25 ordinance is to be adopted. The District Secretary also shall post a copy of the
26 full text of the ordinance on the Cobb Area County Water District's internet
27 website or post a certified copy of the full text ordinance at the District office
28 five days prior to the board meeting at which the proposed ordinance is to be
29 adopted. Within fifteen days after the adoption of the ordinance, The District
30 Secretary shall publish a summary of the ordinance with the names of those
31 Directors voting for and against the matter and the District Secretary shall
32 make available to the public, upon request, a certified copy of the full text of
33 the adopted ordinance and the names of those Directors voting for and

1 against the ordinance. The District Secretary of the Board shall also post a
2 copy of the full text of the adopted ordinance and the names of Directors
3 voting for and against the ordinance on the Cobb Area County Water
4 District's internet website and shall post at the District office of the Secretary
5 of the Board a certified copy of the full text of the approved ordinance along
6 with the voting information specified in this paragraph.

7 The foregoing Ordinance 1- 2024 was introduced before the Board of Directors of
8 the Cobb Area County Water District on the 10th day of April 2024 and adopted
9 by the following vote:

10
11 AYES: 4 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1

12
13
14 ATTEST:

15 _____
16 California Howland
17 District Secretary

15 _____
16 Kees Winkelman, President
17 Board of Directors

18
19
20
21 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

22 _____
23 Robert L. Bridges
24 General Counsel