

Backflow Prevention Device



Last Updated 1 July 2023

Backflow prevention devices

Prevent an unwanted reverse flow of potentially polluted water into the drinking water supply. It is a one-way valve that will eliminate any risk of contamination entering the drinking water supply.

Backflow prevention starts within a property boundary by isolating a possible contamination source from the town mains or storage tanks (rainwater tanks) to the tap or appliance.

What types of installations require a testable backflow prevention device?

Installations that pose a risk to the drinking water supply including but not limited to:

- fire hose reels or fire hydrants
- commercial or industrial equipment or activities that could pollute the drinking water supply (air conditioning cooling tower, chemical cleaning stations etc)
- water outlets in proximity to pollutants, grease traps or chemicals
- an alternate water supply
- Swimming pools & Ornamental ponds
- Dishwasher / glass washers
- Vehicle / bin washing bays

Examples of properties requiring backflow prevention

- Shops, hotels, motels and unit complexes
- Vehicle repair workshops
- Caravan parks and campgrounds
- Medical and dental surgeries
- Car and plant washing facilities
- Dry cleaners and laundries
- Hospitals and funeral parlours
- Club houses for sport
- Child care centres and schools
- Pest control and water carrying vehicles
- Agricultural and horticultural property
- Some dwellings

Property owner's responsibilities

It is a requirement under Queensland legislation that owners of testable backflow prevention device/s must register their device/s with their Local Government and have the device/s inspected and tested annually by a person who is licensed to do the work.

An annual registration fee is required to be paid. An invoice and reminder letter will be issued at the start of every financial year. If a backflow prevention device isn't tested it increases the risk of harmful pollutants entering the drinking water supply.

Penalties apply to property owners who do not have their devices tested or do not pay the annual registration fee to maintain their device/s currency on the backflow register. It is an offence to remove or replace a backflow prevention device unless licensed and authorised to do so. The relevant Local Government must be notified of new, replaced or removed devices.

Licensed persons responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the licensed person to forward the test results (Form 9) to the Local Government within 10 business days of testing the device/s.

Lockyer Valley Regional Council does not require failed valve test results. Failed devices must be immediately repaired or replaced and if unable to do so, the appliance or outlet they serve should be isolated to prevent any potential contamination until repair or replacement.

To register complete a **Form 9** & email to mailbox@lvrc.qld.gov.au along with the applicable registration/licensing fee or contact details of the payer. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Councils Plumbing Team on 5462 0660



Medium hazard device (Double Check Valve – DCV)



High hazard device (reduced pressure zone device RPZD)