

Landscape Irrigation System Homeowner's Permit

As a homeowner who owns and occupies a one- or two-family dwelling, you are allowed to install the required backflow prevention devices for lawn irrigation systems in lieu of a licensed plumbing contractor or landscape irrigation contractor doing this work. A homeowner's plumbing permit is required before you start any work. Permits are issued at the Building Services department.

Where the homeowner installs the backflow prevention device required by the plumbing code, it is his/her responsibility to obtain a required inspection from the Plumbing Inspection Division of Building Services and provide access to and a means for inspection of the backflow prevention device.

Any chemical injection or fertigation system will require the installation of a reduced pressure zone backflow preventer, and in addition to the required plumbing inspection, will require certification that the test ports are operable by a City certified backflow prevention technician with the certification submitted to the City Engineer's Office. A list of approved technicians is available at the City Engineering Office at 367-8601.

Requests for the required plumbing inspection can be called in at 367-8670 or 367-8253. A request for inspection shall be filed at least one working day before the inspection is desired.

Any plumbing code violations found during inspection of the backflow device will be required to be corrected and an additional final inspection verifying compliance is required to be completed within 30 days of the notice. Failure to make a required correction within 30 days of the notice could result in a \$100 administrative fee being charged.

Wasting Water Prohibited

No person shall waste water while watering in the city. The spray pattern for irrigation lawn sprinkler systems is not allowed to extend over driveways or sidewalks.

Rain Sensors Required

Rain sensors shall be installed on all automatic irrigation systems installed after April 18, 2005, and that receive water supplied by the City.

All rain sensors shall automatically shut off the irrigation system after 1/4 inch of rainfall has occurred. All rain sensors shall be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions in a location providing full exposure to rainfall to assure accurate operation. The sensor shall be maintained in good working condition. No person shall with the intent of circumventing the purpose of this section adjust either the rain sensor or irrigation system so that the sensor cannot override and turn off the irrigation system after 1/4 inch of rain has fallen.