



# WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

## Backflow Prevention Assembly Courtesy Notice

February/March 2026

WSSC Water's Cross-Connection Control Program is contacting all WSSC Water customers whose records indicate that a testable backflow prevention assembly is installed. This year, as a customer courtesy, WSSC Water will begin sending test due advisements as a reminder for those customers who have not yet tested their backflow assembly. This letter also provides educational information and resources to help ensure our customers' safety and compliance.

Residential lawn irrigation systems and fire sprinkler systems are part of the private, on property plumbing system and have testable backflow prevention assemblies installed to protect drinking water. Some pools have these assemblies, too. Once drinking water enters the pipes of these connected systems, the water becomes non-drinkable. A backflow prevention assembly prevents flow reversal and keeps non-drinkable water from contaminating the drinking water supply. The maintenance of on property plumbing, including backflow prevention assemblies, is the customer's responsibility.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to know if a backflow prevention assembly is fully functional without testing, which is required annually. While WSSC Water does not perform backflow assembly field testing, the required annual test can be performed by a WSSC Water licensed cross-connection technician.

Once completed, field test report results are electronically transmitted to WSSC Water by a registered principal master plumber. Submission of the annual field test assures Code compliance.

We understand that this may be the first time you are receiving this information. Our residential customer webpage, [wsscwater.com/backflow](http://wsscwater.com/backflow) provides extensive educational information. After reviewing available information or if you feel that you have received this letter in error, you may have additional questions. We ask that you reach out to us by phone at (301)-206-4004 or email [CrossConnectionControlProgram@wsscwater.com](mailto:CrossConnectionControlProgram@wsscwater.com).

Sincerely,

Carroll Matthews  
Section Manager, Cross Connection Control