



ANNUAL BACKFLOW TESTING INSTRUCTIONS

What is a backflow prevention device?

A backflow prevention device protects the City's water supply by preventing any possible cross contamination of potable water and wastewater in the case of a backflow incident. The *Manual of Cross-Connection Control* by the University of Southern California defines a backflow incident as "the undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixtures of water...into the distribution pipes of the potable water supply from any source or sources" (4).

Why does it need to be tested yearly?

Backflow prevention devices need to be tested annually in order to ensure that the devices are properly functioning. This test is required by the City of El Segundo Water Division Cross Connection Control Program as well as the LA County Department of Public Health Services. Testing is pursuant to City of El Segundo Municipal Code Title 11-2 and the California State Department of Health Services Title 17 Chapter V Section 7583 to 7622 of the California Code of Regulations.

What do I need to do to fulfill my annual test requirement?

1. **The City does not perform these tests.**
2. Find a LA County certified backflow technician at http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/EP/cross_con/cross_con_certified_BT.htm
 - a. Select "Employers of Certified Backflow Testers" and choose one to work with.
3. Contact a backflow tester and set up a test date.
4. The backflow tester will come to your location and test the devices. They need to fill out the test report(s) that are sent with your annual notice.
5. Once testing is complete, email the reports to backflow@elsegundo.org. You can also mail the test results to the City of El Segundo Water Division at 400 Lomita St. El Segundo, CA 90245.
6. If your device fails for any reason, send in the failed test report. Then work with the tester to arrange a time when the device can be fixed and retested. Make sure you send in all test forms for all completed tests.
7. Please remember to give the office a call at (310) 524-2745 to keep the Cross Connection staff up to date on the status of your testing or if you need additional assistance.