



Dear CUD CUSTOMER:

RE: Lawn irrigation system on public water system

Lawn irrigation systems, both commercial and residential, are recognized by the **State of Tennessee of Water Supply** as an actual cross-connection to a public water system. The contact between the sprinkler heads and the soil or submergence of sprinkler heads allows a connection between the potable water system and water of unknown or unsafe quality. Soil and standing water in contact with the sprinkler heads poses a significant risk of containing E. coli, Cryptosporidium, Giardia, other pathogens and hazardous chemicals used for lawn care.

The customer has the dual responsibility for protecting the water being distributed within his premises as well as protecting the public water supply system against contamination through cross – connections. The customer has responsibility starting at the point of delivery from the public water supply and continuing throughout the private water system. The customer is responsible for the installation, operation, maintenance, and testing of such backflow prevention assemblies. When mechanical devices are relied upon to provide protection against cross connections, it is required to inspect, test, and repair the assemblies on an annual basis.

The State of Tennessee of Water Supply and Consolidated Utility District require that all irrigation systems have a Reduce Pressure Principle Assembly installed, maintained, and certified tested **every year when irrigation system is started up**. Failure to install and maintain a backflow prevention assembly that is deemed PASSED, and failure to correct conditions threatening the safety of the public water system is prohibited by **Tennessee Code Annotated 68-221-711**.

If the customer does not use the irrigation system, the backflow device must be removed and the irrigation system capped. Customer can email me at [rharrell@cudrc.com](mailto:rharrell@ cudrc.com) with name, location and statement of not using irrigation. If at any time the irrigation system is started up, the backflow device must be installed and tested at that time.

The backflow tester must be certified by the State of Tennessee and approved by Consolidated Utility District. The tester must file a report with our office. A list of certified and approved testers is provided with letter.

Please contact Randy Harrell at 615-225-3326 or [rharrell@cudrc.com](mailto:rharrell@ cudrc.com) if you do not use your irrigation system or if you have any questions. Thank you.

Randy Harrell
Water Quality Coordinator – Consolidated Utility District