

## CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

### Backflow Preventer Testing Requirements within the City of Novi

Cross Connection Control within the City is administered by the Water & Sewer Division. Administration is through the Authority of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Safe Drinking Water Act P.A. 399, Part 14 Cross-Connection Rules, City Cross Connection Control Program (CCCP) and the City of Novi Code of Ordinances; Article II Water Supply Systems, Division 2 Cross Connections, Sec. 34-36 through 34-43 and more specifically Sec. 34-37 & 34-42 for testing.

Administration of these rules is NOT through the State Construction Code Act P.A. 230.

**Testing of backflow preventers within the City of Novi has three components to it that includes the following:**

- 1. Testers must possess a current ASSE 5110 Certification as required in the State Part 14 Cross Connection Rules and Safe Drinking Water Act P.A. 399.**
- 2. Testers must be a licensed plumbing contractor as required by the City's CCCP submitted to and approved by EGLE and City of Novi Code of Ordinances.**
- 3. Testers must record results on the City of Novi test report form that can be found at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) as required by the City CCCP and City code of ordinances.**

It should be noted that the City's backflow testing requirements are based upon the City as a whole and includes residential, commercial, and industrial.

The Cities test report form is based upon ASSE 5000 Cross-Connection Control Professional Qualifications Standard required information on a test report form with a couple additional requirements or comments revolving around required permits, new installations, and valve status tests on fire sprinkler systems.

We frequently get questions as to why a plumbing license is required if an individual is in possession of an ASSE 5110 Certification to test. This question was just answered by the Bureau of Construction Codes through an opinion from the Attorney Generals Office. P.A. 407 Skilled Trades Act, Article 11 requires licensure to test.

**The City of Novi Water & Sewer Division has amended the backflow tester policy as follows.**

You must be a licensed plumber to test a backflow preventer in the State of Michigan pursuant to the latest interpretation by the State Plumbing Board in 2023. Considering this new interpretation of Public Act 407 Skilled Trades Act, the City of Novi has reviewed the requirements for plumbing apprentices testing backflow preventers.

**Plumbing Apprentices may submit backflow test reports to the City of Novi under the following conditions:**

- Plumbing Apprentices shall be employed by a plumbing contractor and be directly supervised by the licensed master plumber or licensed journey plumber they are employed by.
- It is the apprentice plumber's sole responsibility to verify to the Novi Water & Sewer Division who they are employed by and the direct supervisor.
- It is the apprentice plumber's sole responsibility to verify to the Water & Sewer Division that they are directly supervised by the licensed master or journey plumber who they are employed by and provide the name, signature, date, and license number of that individual on the test report form.
- Apprentice Plumbers shall be ASSE 5110 Certified to test.

Please feel free to contact the City Water & Sewer Division with any other questions you may have at 248-735-5661.

