

ORDINANCE NO. 1158

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, IOWA, INCORPORATING A NEW CHAPTER REGARDING CROSS CONNECTION CONTROLS.

WHEREAS, in order to protect the City's potable water supply, the City Council of the City of Washington has heretofore deemed it necessary and desirable to implement a cross connection control ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City administration with the assistance of the Iowa Rural Water Association has drafted a proposed cross connection control ordinance that now requires passage by the Washington City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, as follows:

1. Amendment. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Washington, Iowa, is hereby amended to add and incorporate a new chapter entitled "Cross Connection Control" to its code of ordinances, which reads as follows:

**"CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL.**

Section 1. Definitions. When used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. "Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly for Containment" means an assembly that has been approved by the University of Southern California Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research (USC) and meets AWWA standard C511-89 for Reduced Pressure Assemblies and ANSI/AWWA Standard C510-17 (R21) for Double Check Assemblies.
2. "Backflow" means the undesirable reverse of flow of water contaminants or pollutants into the public water drinking supply as a result of a cross-connection. Backflow may occur through backpressure or backsiphonage.
3. "Backpressure" means Backflow caused by water pressure in a facility that is higher than the pressure of the public drinking water supply. This may be caused by pumps, boilers, gravity or other sources of pressure.
4. "Backsiphonage" means the reverse flow of used, contaminated, or polluted water from a plumbing fixture or device into the public drinking water due to reduced pressure. This can be caused by firefighting, water main breaks or repairs.

5. "Backflow Prevention Assembly Technician" means a person registered with the Iowa Department of Public Health to test or repair Backflow Prevention Assemblies and to report on the conditions of these assemblies.
6. "Cross connection" means any actual or potential connection or arrangement, physical or otherwise, between a potable water supply system and any plumbing fixture or tank, receptacle, equipment or device through which may make it possible for non-potable, used, unclean, polluted, contaminated water or other substance to enter the potable water system under any condition.
7. "Containment" means the installation of an approved testable backflow prevention assembly on the water service line immediately following the meter or at the service entrance to the building.
8. "Customer" means the owner, operator or occupant of a building or property or of a private water system which has a water service from a public water system.
9. "Degree of Hazard" means the rating of a cross connection or water service as determined the Superintendent that indicates the potential to cause contamination or pollution. Facilities rated as high hazard will be required to install an approved assembly for Containment.
10. "Distribution System" means the water distribution system of the City of Washington, Iowa.
11. "Double Check Valve Assembly" means a backflow prevention assembly consisting of two independently acting, internally loaded check valves, four properly located test ports and two isolation valves.
12. "High Hazard" means a high hazard cross-connection which may alter the quality of the potable water by creating an actual hazard to the public health, through poisoning or through the spread of disease by sewage, industrial fluids or wastewater service entrance.
13. "Isolation" means the installation of a backflow prevention assembly at the cross-connection on each piece of water using equipment, such as a boiler, mortuary aspirator, lawn irrigation, chemical mixer/dispenser, post-mix carbonator or similar devices.
14. "Low Hazard" means a cross-connection which may alter the quality of potable water to a degree which does not create a hazard to public health, but which does adversely and unreasonably affect the aesthetic qualities of such potable water for domestic use.
15. "Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly" means a backflow prevention consisting of two independently acting, internally loaded check valves, a differential pressure relief valve, four properly test ports and two isolation valves.
16. "Superintendent" means the Water Superintendent for the City of Washington or his/her designee.
17. "Thermal Expansion" means the volumetric increase of water pressure due to heating resulting in increased pressure in a closed system.

18. "Water Service" means the physical connection between a public water system and the Customer's building, property or private water system or the act of providing potable water to a Customer.

Section 2. Responsibility for Administration. The Superintendent shall administer, implement and enforce the provisions of this chapter. Any powers granted or duties imposed upon the Superintendent may be delegated by the Superintendent to persons or entities acting in the beneficial interest or employ of the City.

Section 3. Right of Entry. Upon proper identification presented by the Superintendent or his/her designee or upon the granting of a search warrant by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Superintendent shall be permitted access to a Customer's building or property for the purposes of inspection and to ensure compliance with this chapter.

Section 4. New water services. Prior to connection of any new water service, the Customer or Customer's agent shall submit plans for a new water service to the Superintendent for review. The Superintendent shall determine the type of backflow prevention assembly required for containment based upon the Degree of Hazard. The Superintendent shall require the installation of the appropriate backflow prevention assembly for Containment prior to the initiation of water service. All new service lines are subject to the requirements of the plumbing code pertaining to backflow prevention.

Section 5. Cross Connections prohibited. All Cross Connections from any well or other source of water to any piping systems connected to the Distribution System are prohibited.

Section 6. Customer responsibility. Each Customer shall be responsible that no Cross Connections exist on the Customer's property or premises unless an approved backflow prevention device has been installed and maintained by the Customer.

Section 7. Backflow Devices required. Backflow prevention devices at the entrance to the water service system are required for the following:

- a. In the case of a potential of a Cross Connection where a hazardous condition exists;
- b. All new commercial or industrial, or newly remodeled commercial or industrial buildings;
- c. All multi-tenant residential properties; and
- d. Permanently installed lawn irrigation devices; and
- e. Any case where the Superintendent believes that the Degree of Hazard warrants the installation of a backflow prevention device.

Section 8. Private Wells. Private Wells and any piping served by a private well shall be physically disconnected from any plumbing pipes and fixtures that are or will be connected to the City's water distribution system. If a private well will be left in service, no well equipment or piping shall be allowed to remain in the building even if it is physically separated or isolated with a valve unless an approved reduced pressure zone backflow prevention assembly is installed at the water service entrance.

Section 9. Interconnected Services and/or Fire Lines. When a Customer is served by two or more inter-connected services and/or fire lines connected to different distribution mains or different sections of distribution mains, the Customer shall install, at the Customer's sole cost and expense, on each service line and/or fire line, an approved check valve according to the latest edition of AWWA Standard C508. This required check valve shall be installed in an access manhole and shall be located on private property immediately adjacent and inside the property line. The Superintendent shall have the right to enter onto the private property upon presenting proper identification to inspect said check valve.

Section 10. Inspection by Superintendent. The Superintendent, upon presenting of property identification, may enter upon any existing Customer property or premises, excluding single-family residences, to evaluate the type of water usage and Degree of Hazard for said property and/or premises. Failure of the Customer to provide access within thirty (30) days of request by the Superintendent may result in the filing of an action with a court of competent jurisdiction to allow said access.

Section 11. Water Usage Inventory. In lieu of the inspection outlined in Section 10 above, the Customer may complete a Water Usage Inventory on a form provided by the City and submit it to the Superintendent for review. Failure of the Customer to complete said Water Usage Inventory within thirty (30) days of request by the Superintendent may result in the filing of an action with a court of competent jurisdiction to require an inspection outlined in Section 10 above or completion of said Water Usage Inventory.

Section 12. Installation Notice. After the inspection has been completed as outlined in Section 10 above or the Water Usage Inventory has been completed by the Customer as outlined in Section 11 above, the Superintendent may require the installation of an appropriate backflow prevention device to protect the City's potable water supply. To require the installation of a backflow prevention device, the Superintendent shall send written notice to the Customer via U.S. Mail to the address listed in the Office of the County Auditor (the "Installation Notice"), giving the Customer thirty (30) days to install said backflow prevention device at the Customer's sole cost and expense. Upon completion of said installation, the Customer shall submit a passing backflow test to the Superintendent.

Section 13. Annual Inspection Required. The Customer which has an approved backflow prevention device installed on the Customer's property or premises shall have each backflow prevention device tested annually by a backflow prevention assembly technician registered with the Iowa Department of Public Health. Proof of said annual test shall be submitted no later than July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year (the "Annual Backflow Test Date"). The Customer shall show compliance with this Annual Inspection Requirement by submitting a report of each test to the Superintendent by the Annual Backflow Test Date. The Customer shall promptly, but no later than 30 days after being notified of a malfunctioning backflow prevention device, repair and/or replace said malfunctioning backflow prevention device.

Section 14. Disconnection from Water Service Pipe authorized. In addition to the remedies expressed elsewhere in this chapter, the City may, disconnect the Customer from the City's water distribution system for violation of this chapter.

2. Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

3. Adjudication. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed and approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2024.

Millie Younquist  
Millie Younquist, Mayor Pro tem

Attest:

Amanda Wang  
City Clerk

Approved on First Reading: 12-5-2023  
Approved on Second Reading: 12-19-2023  
Approved on Third & Final Reading: 1-2-2024

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 1158 on the  
4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.

Amanda Waugh  
City Clerk