



Tucson Water Backflow News

Summer 2005

A NEW DATABASE

Have you heard about the new database the Backflow Office will be getting? As part of our effort to become more efficient and customer friendly, we will begin using a new database later this summer. This new database will allow us to do some things that we cannot currently do.

Our new database will allow registered testers to input test results directly into the database. This will mean Tucson Water customers can be put in compliance immediately after a test is performed. Testers will not be required to enter their forms using the new system; however, this will be provided as an option for those who wish to do so. Testers will still be able to mail in or drop off test forms if they wish.

If you choose to enter your own test forms, all you will need is access to the internet.

You can enter test forms any time, seven days a week and on holidays too. The customer should never have a late test form again.

As soon as we are comfortable using the new system (working out all the bugs), we will be scheduling training sessions with testers interested in using the new program.

AND A NEW FILING SYSTEM

ADEQ regulations (AAC R-18-9-115(G)) require Tucson Water to maintain the annual test records for each backflow prevention assembly for three years. In the past we kept the paper test forms and stored them in multiple filing cabinets throughout the Office.

In 2003, we received permission from ADEQ to keep this information electronically. Last Spring, we began scanning the test reports and we are now retaining the test reports in an electronic document management system. The days of being buried under hundreds of pounds of paper are over.

All of the test reports filed in the electronic document management system can be retrieved and printed when needed.

REPLACING PVB's

Before you replace a PVB, contact your Zone inspector to determine whether the assembly needs to be upgraded based on the level of protection needed for the property.

SPOT TESTING

Tucson Water has a spot testing program. Every month we test assemblies in locations throughout our service area. These assemblies are chosen randomly from the database and we attempt to test these assemblies within 14 days of their annual test. The purpose of this spot testing program is to assure that the Tucson Water system is protected.

DO I NEED A BPA?

This is a question that customers may ask you. Rather than risk providing a customer with incorrect information, please refer this question to the inspector who is responsible for the zone where the property is located.

JUNE STATISTICS

- 2,047 compliance letters were mailed
- 1,525 test forms were entered into the database
- 81 assemblies were spot tested
- 91 Four Day Notices were issued
- 6 services were discontinued



YEAH! IT'S SUMMER!