

# *Tucson Water Backflow News*

*March 2004*

## *PVB Application*

There is some confusion in the field about the appropriateness of the PVB for service protection. The number one question you should ask, "Are there sources on the site that can produce backpressure on a PVB?" As you know, a PVB cannot be subjected to backpressure. How can backpressure occur? Backpressure is produced by other sources of water, other water meters on the site, elevated water tanks or water lines, and chemical injection pumps.

Where can a PVB be used as service protection? Only on irrigation systems where there are no other sources of water or chemical injection pumps. An example would be a median or traffic island.

Don't get stuck. PVB applications are very limited for service protection. If you have questions about the proper application of a PVB, call the Backflow Inspector for the area you are working

## *Approved Gages*

The test gages used for testing backflow prevention assemblies in Tucson Water's service area must meet the following specifications:

1. The gage must be a differential pressure gage either the mechanical or electronic models are acceptable.
2. The gage dial or the read out must measure at least 0 – 15 PSID.
3. The gage dial or read out scale must be measured in at least increments of 0.2 PSID and preferably 0.1 PSID for better accuracy.
4. The gage must be re-calibrated annually and passing proof of calibration must be submitted to Tucson Water
5. The gage must be registered with Tucson Water and include:
  1. Calibration Date
  2. Manufacturer
  3. Model Number
  4. Gage type (Mechanical or Electronic)
  5. Serial Number
6. Tucson Water will issue an identification number for the approved gage. This is the number to be entered on the test report form in the appropriate box.

## *Testing Too Early*

To give your customers the service they deserve, please do not test more than 45 days prior to the annual compliance date. We have received numerous backflow test and maintenance forms for tests completed more than 45 days before the test compliance date. It is the policy of Tucson Water not to accept tests earlier than 45 days prior to the compliance date. Tests performed too early will be recorded, but will not count as the annual compliance test.

## *March 29<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Public Meetings*

Proposed Backflow Ordinance

For your convenience there will be two meetings:

7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Copper Room, Randolph Golf Center, 600 S. Alvernon Way