

BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM

Protecting our water supply

The Beaverton Purple Pipe program will sustainably water our green spaces.

Our community is growing and so are our water needs. The Beaverton Purple Pipe program works toward the community's long-term goals of creating a reliable and sustainable water supply by routing treated stormwater for watering our green spaces and for stream recharge. The Purple Pipe program helps conserve our most precious natural resource: clean drinking water.

What is backflow prevention and why is it needed?

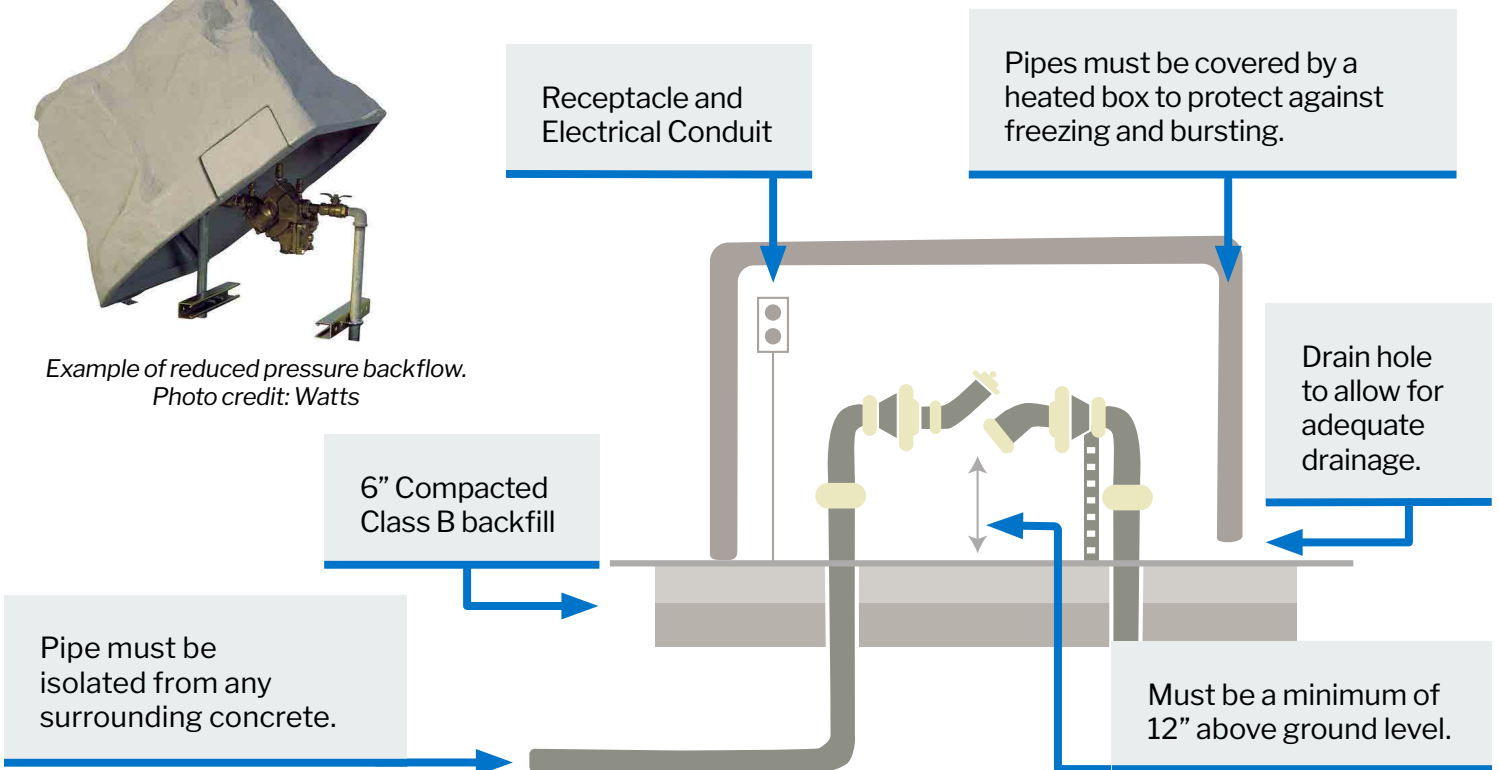
Backflow prevention stops non-potable water from entering the drinking water system. In the event that a reverse flow of non-potable water occurs, backflow preventors will block water from the non-potable system from getting into the drinking water system. In a backpressure or backsiphonage event, backflow preventers will block water from the non-potable system from getting into the drinking water system. The type required varies depending on the situation.

What backflow preventor is required for the Purple Pipe program?

According to state requirement OAR 333-061-0070, all residences connecting to the Purple Pipe program system must have backflow prevention because they will have water pipes that convey liquids other than potable water. The type of backflow preventor required is a **reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA)**, which has an above-ground assembly that allows access for testing.



Example of reduced pressure backflow.
Photo credit: Watts



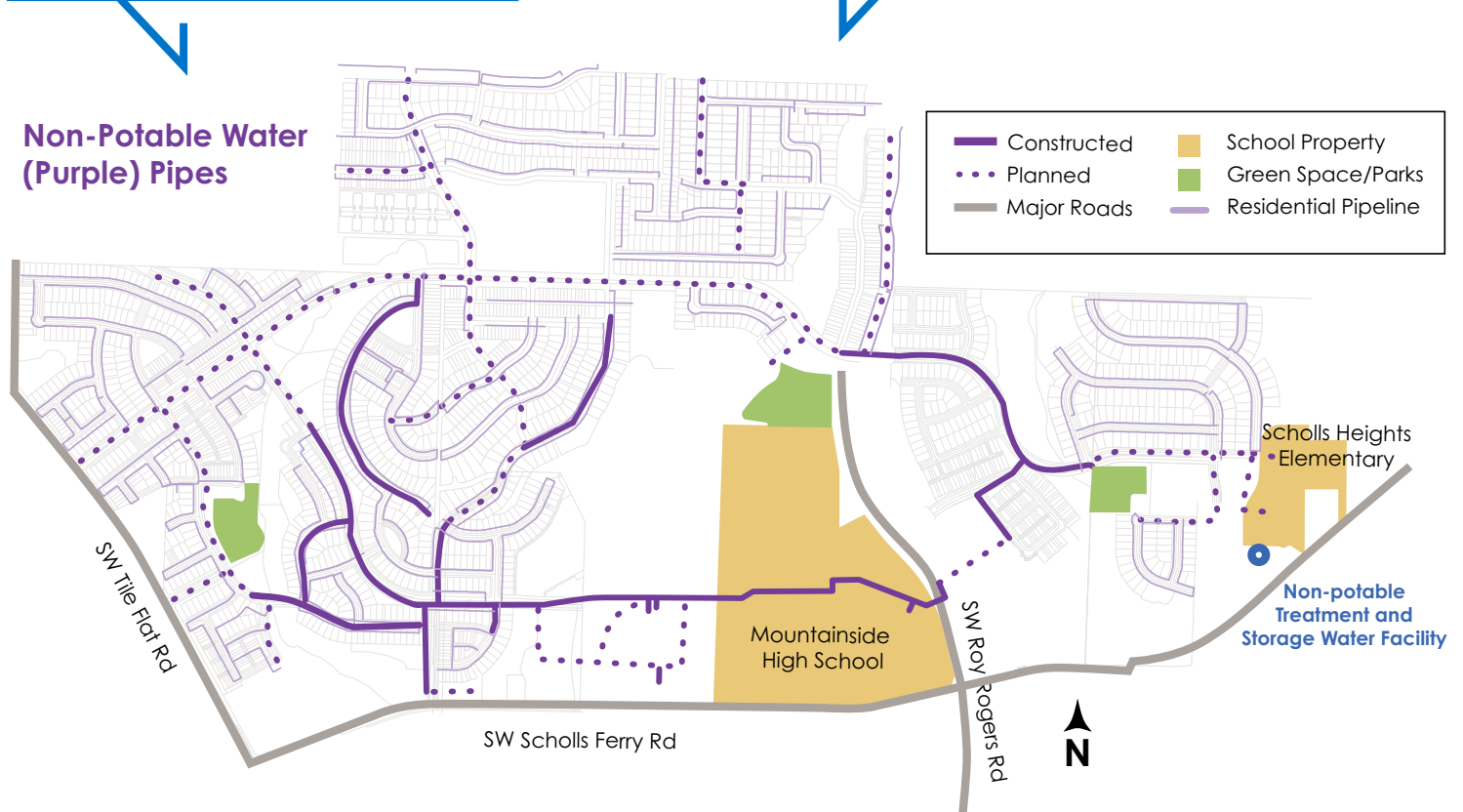
Testing requirements

Backflow assemblies must be tested to show that they are working properly. They must be tested annually, as well as when they are installed, repaired, or relocated. Testing must be performed by Oregon Health Authority Certified Backflow Assembly Testers. Find a tester on OHA's "List of Backflow Testers" webpage.

Reduced Pressure Backflow Assemblies will be required for all residences in South Cooper Mountain.

Purple is the national color for pipes carrying clean, non-potable water such as groundwater or rainwater.

Only about 1% of drinking water in the U.S. is used for drinking. Other uses often do not need such high-quality water.



Learn more

More information about backflow prevention, testing, and repair can be found on the project website at beavertonoregon.gov/purple-pipe

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