



The City of Niles, Ohio
2022
Backflow Prevention Program

The City of Niles,
Ohio 34 West State
Street
Niles, OH 44446

Dear City of Niles Water Customer with Backflow Prevention Device:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) requires that the City of Niles implement a backflow prevention program in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95. The City of Niles administers a yearly Backflow Prevention Program, in accordance with Niles City Ordinance 921.07. All City water customers who have a backflow prevention device will be required to have their device inspected by a certified plumber in 2022 and on an annual basis moving forward. State of Ohio regulations place the responsibility on the water customer to properly maintain and ensure that cross-connections are not created and that backflow prevention devices are tested annually.

What is Backflow?

Backflow is flow through a cross-connection from a possible source of contamination that funnels back into the public drinking water system. Backflow occurs when a cross-connection is created causing a pressure reversal in the water supply piping creating back-siphonage.

What is Cross-Connection?

Cross-connection is any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping.

Why Should You Be Concerned?

All cross-connections can pose a potential health risk should contaminated water enter your water supply plumbing due to backflow conditions. Properly functioning backflow prevention devices are designed to prevent this from occurring.

Next Steps:

Throughout 2022 the City will send out notices to all water customers who have been identified to have a backflow containment device, notifying them that an inspection and testing of the device is required. A list of certified backflow inspectors are provided on the City of Niles website (www.thecityofniles.com). Failure to test your device within 30 days may result in disconnection of water service until a test report is submitted.

All device inspection reports should be sent to Allison King. at aking@thecityofniles.com or 330-544-9000 ext.1101 should you have any questions. Backflow Test Forms can be found on the City website. We appreciate your cooperation in making the 2022 Backflow Prevention Program a success.

Sincerely,

Anthony Flarey - Director of Public Service