



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Backflow Assemblies

#### Clearance and Accessibility Requirements

Backflow prevention assemblies are critical components that protect the potable water systems from pollution or contamination sources. It is important to remember a backflow preventer is a mechanical device which requires testing and at some point, in time will require replacement or repair.

Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)

#### **603.4.3 Access and Clearance:**

Access and clearance shall be provided for the required testing, maintenance, and repair.

#### **What does this mean?**

- ✚ Clear your equipment (and its boxes/enclosures) of bark dust, soil, leaves, vegetation and any stored items.
- ✚ Leave two feet around the assembly, box, or enclosure; and four feet above this work area.
- ✚ Be sure your equipment is not buried **within** its box/enclosure. If valve boxes are filled with too much soil and/or other debris, it will not be accessible to the tester and can breakdown the body of the assembly.
- ✚ Allow the technicians full maneuverability and space to set related tools/equipment during their work. When outside, their work involves kneeling in front of the assembly box and bending directly over them to operate the valves and attached testing equipment.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.kirklandwa.gov/backflow-prevention](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/backflow-prevention) or contact the City of Kirkland's Cross Connection Control Office at 425-587-3913 or [cccprogram@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:cccprogram@kirklandwa.gov).