

## BACKFLOW TESTING INFORMATION

---

You must be a Town approved backflow tester and registered on the AquaResource site to submit passing backflow tests on behalf of Apex customers. To register with the AquaResource site visit [www.backflow.tecnxs.com](http://www.backflow.tecnxs.com). Directions on how to register and submit passing backflow tests to the AquaResource site can be found at [www.apexnc.org/howtoregister](http://www.apexnc.org/howtoregister)

Backflow tests for new installs must be submitted within 10 days of the water meter install. Failure to test within this timeframe is a violation of the Town's Cross-Connection Control Ordinance (Sec. 12-162) and subject to enforcement in the form of water service termination until the date of the scheduled backflow test.

The backflow test must be submitted to the AquaResource site prior to final inspection and customer operation of the irrigation system.

**Per the CCC Ordinance all backflow assemblies must be tested annually. The customer is responsible for scheduling the annual backflow test with a Town approved backflow tester. The customer will receive a postcard reminder from AquaResource 45 days prior to their annual test date. Failure to test by the annual due date may lead to enforcement in the form of water service termination or civil penalty.**

## CONTACT US

---

### BACKFLOW / CROSS CONNECTION AND SPLIT TAP OR WATER METER INSTALLATION QUESTIONS

**Water Resources Program Coordinator**

(919) 372-7478

[cross.connection@apexnc.org](mailto:cross.connection@apexnc.org)

### PERMIT & INSPECTION QUESTIONS

**Building Inspections & Permitting Department**

**73 Hunter Street, 1st Floor**

(919) 249-3418

Schedule inspections via on-line service request form located at:

[www.apexnc.org/inspectionrequest](http://www.apexnc.org/inspectionrequest)



# IRRIGATION PERMIT PROCESS



**APEX**  
NORTH CAROLINA

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q: Do I need a permit to install lawn sprinklers?

A: Yes, an irrigation permit is required for the installation of lawn sprinkler systems and yard hydrants. See Step 1 for information on obtaining an Irrigation Permit.

### Q: Can the Town install the Split Tap?

A: Yes, on the condition the Irrigation Permit is issued to an existing single-family residential water customer. The Town will not install split taps for commercial properties or residential homes that have not received the certificate of occupancy.

### Q: Why do I need to install a backflow prevention assembly (BPA) and which BPA is approved for installation?

A: Per the Town's Cross Connection Control (CCC) Ordinance irrigation systems are considered a health hazard due to contaminants such as pesticides that can backflow into the potable water system. Any lead-free reduced pressure principle assembly (RPZ) approved by the University of Southern California Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research USCFCRC & HR) and the American Society of Sanitary Engineering (ASSE) is acceptable for installation.

### Q: Where can I install the lead-free RPZX backflow preventer assembly?

A: The RPZ must be installed at the origin of the lawn sprinkler system between the water meter and the first sprinkler head (or yard hydrant). Installation cannot be more than 25-ft from the meter and the relief valve vent must be a minimum of 12-inches and no more than 36-inches above grade.

### Q: Is there an irrigation schedule?

A: Lawn irrigation on Monday's is not allowed. Odd numbered addresses may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and even numbered addresses may water on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. Hand watering is allowed daily.

## 6 STEPS TO INSTALLATION & OPERATION OF YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM

### 1. Complete and submit the Irrigation Permit Application

The permit application can be found on the Inspections & Permitting Department webpage. Submit the application, plot plan, and associated fees (due at the time of application) to Inspections & Permitting Department at 73 Hunter Street.

**Associated Fees:** Water Capital Reimbursement, Water Meter, Split Tap Installation (if applicable), and Single Trade Inspection (see Adopted Fee Schedule for cost).

**If you are an existing water customer and elect to have the Town install the split tap proceed to step 2. All other customers proceed to step 3.**

### 2. Schedule the split tap installation

Complete the online service request form found at:

<http://www.apexnc.org/SplitTap> to schedule the split tap installation. Every effort will be made to install the split tap within 7 business days of the request.

### 3. Schedule the irrigation rough-in inspection

Inspection requests must now be submitted online prior to 2 p.m.

(<http://www.apexnc.org/inspectionrequest>) for next-day inspections. The Plumbing Code installation requirements and Town of Apex Standard Specifications and Detail(s) Section 620 ([www.apexnc.org/620details](http://www.apexnc.org/620details)) must be met for rough-in approval. **Note: The trench must be open from the meter to the backflow for this inspection.**

Water meter installation will not be scheduled until the rough-in inspection has passed and the RPZ has been installed and approved by the Water Resources Program Coordinator.

### 4. Request the water meter installation

Complete the online service request form found at <http://www.apexnc.org/InstallWaterMeter> to schedule the installation of the water meter within 7 business days of the request.

### 5. Schedule the RPZ Test with a Town approved backflow tester

The RPZ test must be performed by a Town approved backflow tester within 10 days of the water meter install. A list of Town approved testers can be found on the AquaResource site at [www.backflow.tecnxs.com/portal/11](http://www.backflow.tecnxs.com/portal/11). The backflow tester is responsible for submitting the passing test to the AquaResource site on behalf of the customer. Submittal of the passing test is required prior to final inspection.

### 6. Schedule the final inspection

The concrete slab, water meter, ASSE 1060 hot box, BPA cover, and rain sensor (1/4" or less setting) must be installed, tested, and ready for inspection. See Step 3 for link to inspection requests.

