

New backflow prevention policy

and new ways to submit reports

Important changes for plumbers

From 1 January 2009, Sydney Water will implement the **new revised *Backflow Prevention Containment Policy*** (replacing the 2005 *Backflow Prevention Containment Policy*). This includes new requirements of the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage* and additional requirements.

Sydney Water also has **two new ways to submit test reports**.

New backflow policy

The 2008 *Backflow Prevention Containment Policy* incorporates the new requirements of the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage*:

- Residential rainwater tanks and underground tanks that accept roof water only, are considered to be low hazard. They now only need a non-testable backflow prevention device, removing the need for yearly testing.
- Properties with both drinking and non-drinking water supplies must install an appropriate level of backflow prevention containment on both supply systems to protect the main drinking water supply. This includes mixed developments and areas serviced by a decentralised wastewater treatment system.
- Policy requirements for fire services now apply to all property types, as entrapped firewater is common to both residential and non-residential fire services and poses the same risk.
- As of 1 January 2009, all new properties identified as having a low hazard rating must install a non-testable device as a minimum. If the water service is greater than 25 mm, the owner must pay for the installation.

- For a copy of the new *Backflow Prevention Containment Policy* visit www.sydneypwater.com.au/BuildingDeveloping

Submitting test reports

Licensed and accredited backflow plumbers can submit reports through:

1. **Our new online system**
2. **Partially pre-completed paper inspection and maintenance report**
3. **Paper inspection and maintenance report.**

These new processes save you time and paperwork and you no longer need an inspection and maintenance test report book.

1. Our new online system

Licensed plumbers can now enter backflow installation certificates of compliance and change their details online.

To register for access to this free online system, email your name, address and plumber license number to backflow@sydneywater.com.au with the subject heading 'web registration'.

Submit reports online at:
www.sydneywater.com.au
Plumbing/BackflowPrevention/
PlumberInformation

2. Partially pre-completed paper inspection and maintenance report

Mail the partially completed report, which is sent to the customer with their yearly test reminder or notice to install a backflow prevention device.

This has the Sydney Water property number, address and municipality already printed on the form.

Plumbers must still meet requirements of the *NSW Code of Practice for Plumbing and Drainage and AS/NZS3500:1* when they submit reports.

3. Paper inspection and maintenance report.

Sydney Water no longer accepts reports by fax.

Our mailing address has also changed.

Send all mail for Sydney Water's Backflow Prevention Program to:

Sydney Water Backflow
PO Box 517
Matraville NSW 2036

To know more about Sydney Water's Backflow Prevention Program

Visit www.sydneywater.com.au/BuildingDeveloping