



# Valparaiso City Utilities

205 Billings Street  
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383-3699

*"Water is our Most Valuable Natural Resource"*

## HOME IRRIGATION SAFETY

Don't let your Irrigation System contaminate the water you drink....

### BACKFLOW PREVENTION ALTERNATIVES FOR HOME IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Irrigation Systems make watering lawns and gardens easier and save time, BUT water that may be contaminated by weed killers and/or fertilizers can be backsiphoned (backflow) into your drinking water. Irrigation systems not protected by approved backflow prevention assemblies could endanger the health of a household, neighborhood or community.

ALL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS....new or existing....MUST BE EQUIPPED with an approved backflow prevention assembly. Only property installed, state-approved backflow prevention assemblies meet the plumbing code and provide health protection for your family and neighbors. Your local water utility can give you a free list of state-approved assemblies and certified testers.

### TWO TYPES OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

<p><b>1. PRESSURE VACUUM BREAKER (PVB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sophisticated</li><li>• Versatile</li><li>• Requires annual testing by a certified tester</li></ul>	
<p><b>2. REDUCED PRESSURE BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY (RPBA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Usually most expensive</li><li>• Most complex</li><li>• Allows for application of fertilizer or other chemicals into irrigation system (no other type has this approval)</li><li>• Requires annual testing by a certified tester</li></ul>	

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**Water Department**

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