

RIVERWOOD CDD
BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is a backflow preventer (BFP)? What does it look like?

The BFP is actually an assembly made up of piping, valves, and fittings. A Charlotte County Utilities (CCU) detail has been provided.

2. What is the function of a BFP?

The purpose of the BFP is to prevent the reverse flow of contaminated water back into the potable system. The Riverwood Community Development District (RCDD) will be installing the double check BFP which acts similar to a check valve allowing flow in only one direction.

3. Why do we need a BFP?

Current regulations require a BFP to be installed depending upon the type of hazard present at the home (swimming pool, chemicals, or reclaimed water for irrigation). Since the RCDD will be receiving reclaimed water from CCU for their irrigation needs, CCU code requires a BFP be installed and tested annually at every home before the reclaimed water project improvements can be used.

4. Do we need a BFP on every house? For example, there are 4 neighborhoods: Lakeshore Village, Eagle Trace, Osprey Landing, and Grand Vista that run through one master meter. Can we get an okay from CCU to use one backflow preventer for those neighborhoods?

No. Charlotte County code, which abides by the Florida Administrative Code, requires a BFP be installed on private property on the potable water service directly after the meter for every home when using reclaimed water for irrigation.

5. Do I need a BFP if I already have one?

The homes in Sawgrass were constructed with a Reduced Pressure Backflow Assembly (RPZ). Its is anticipated that these units are functioning properly but will be verified by inspection. If repairs are needed, a parts kit will be used. Once the BFP is functioning properly, a small dated tag will be placed on the BFP indicating it has been certified with CCU. There are some homes in older neighborhoods that have many types of existing BFPs in many locations. As part of this program, a functioning BFP is required to be installed directly after the potable meter, therefore, if the existing BFP is NOT functioning properly or located directly after the potable meter, the existing BFP will be repaired or a new one will installed directly after the potable meter. Many of the existing BFPs are located next to the homes or in other non conspicuous places. These BFPs will be left in place and a new BFP will installed directly after the potable meter.

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6. What is the timeline to install / recertify the BFPs?

We anticipate that all homes in Riverwood will have a functioning certified BFP before completion of the reclaimed water improvements project or 08/13/2012.

7. Is a permit required to install a BFP?

Yes. A permit is required by CCU. The normal cost is \$94 each. Your RCDD Chairman, Walt Powers, negotiated the permit cost down to \$49 each by using CCU's online system.

8. Who will install the BFPs?

The permitting, material ordering, and installation coordination of the BFPs is being performed by the RCDD Reclaimed Water System Improvements Project Manager. The installation or repair will be performed by Severn Trent Environmental Services. The materials are being ordered tax free from Ferguson Supplies.

9. Who will own / maintain the BFPs?

The potable water meter is located in the RCDDs public right-of-way and will continue to be owned and maintained by the RCDD. The BFP will be installed on private property and each homeowner will own and maintain their BFP.

10. Who will pay for the BFPs?

The estimated cost to install a new BFP which includes a permit, materials, and installation are listed below.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Permit fee	\$49
Materials	\$107
Installation	<u>\$92.50</u>
Total	\$248.50

The estimated cost to inspect and recertify a functioning existing BFP is \$35. If the existing BFP is inspected and requires repair, the estimated cost is anticipated to be \$35 (inspection) + \$60 (repair kit) = \$95. All costs will be paid for by the homeowner via a separate utility bill. A minimal service charge will be added to each monthly unpaid bill.