



# GEAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES • Steven Oluic, Ph.D., Director  
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To Whom it May Concern,

All irrigation systems, commercial and residential, which are connected to a plumbing system where the water is supplied by the Geauga County Department of Water Resources (GCDWR) must be protected by a backflow prevention device. This device protects the facility where it is installed, as well as the entire public water system.

This backflow prevention device must be inspected annually to ensure that it is working properly. As long as the irrigation system is connected to the plumbing, whether the irrigation system is used or not, the backflow prevention device must be inspected.

When a lawn irrigation system is no longer permanently being used, it may be disconnected from the system and the backflow prevention device can be removed, providing the following conditions have been met:

- (a) The line supplying the system must be cut flush against the wall and filled with grout at the branch off from the main incoming line.
- (b) If the outside underground system is not removed, the supply line must be cut a minimum of 10 (ten) feet away from the foundation of the house.
- (c) The control panel for the lawn irrigation system must be removed.
- (d) The Geauga Public Health must be informed for an inspection to ensure that the previous conditions have been met.
- (e) A Geauga Public Health plumbing permit must be obtained.

Upon the completion of the Geauga Public Health inspection, and all of the above conditions have been met, the backflow device will be deactivated from the records and will no longer be required to be tested.

If you have any questions, please contact our Water Resources Office at telephone number below.