



**Disconnecting & Capping Irrigation Systems** 

Protecting our water from contamination is everyone's responsibility. Property owners should be aware of their responsibilities associated with having a lawn irrigation system.



Due to the bacterial and chemical contaminants found on lawns, irrigation systems are considered high hazards with potential to backflow into the public water distribution system. For this reason, these systems must have an approved backflow prevention assembly installed and tested annually. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that cross connections do not exist and that the backflow prevention device is installed and maintained.

Property owners may choose to discontinue using their lawn irrigation system for a variety of reasons, but backflow prevention requirements are still in effect and enforced unless the system is permanently disconnected. If the property owner chooses to disconnect their system, Citizens recommends consulting with and/or hiring a licensed plumber/contractor, professional irrigation company, or similar to ensure that the job is done correctly.





## Important Items to Remember

- ✓ A shut-off valve is not a sufficient method for backflow prevention.
- ✓ Dedicated irrigation lines Remove the backflow preventer and cap the line there.
- ✓ Branched irrigation lines Remove the backflow preventer and branch valve. Cap/plug MUST be located directly at the meter or "T" connection.
- ✓ To avoid possible added costs, contact the Utility if you are unsure of how or where to cap the lines.

If you are ready to begin the process or have already completed the process of disconnecting your lawn irrigation system, please contact Aqua Backflow, a firm contracted with Citizens to help manage our program, at (847) 742-2296 or info@AquaBackflow.com to ensure our records are up to date.

This document is a resource for reference, and Citizens is not liable for unintended consequences on the actions of the property owner. Citizens is not responsible for the failure to adequately install a cap/plug to a terminated end point, after the supply line is pressurized.