

** PIWD CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION **

Regarding PERMITTING for backflow preventer installations

[Visit www.pih2o.org to view and print this document]

The Town of Portsmouth is requiring that all installed backflow preventers be permitted and inspected (as per RIGLs 23-27.3-128.0, 23-27.3-113.0, 23-27.3-128.0, and 23-27.3-111.5).

The PIWD is providing the following information to help facilitate that process for our customers. For customers with “low hazard” situations that require the installation of a residential dual check valve, your next steps related to permitting are dependent on where you are in the installation process. Note that, regardless of the type of backflow preventer installed, all installations must meet plumbing code specifications.

PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED – If you already have a residential dual check valve installed, you can apply for a permit in one of two ways: stop by the Building Inspection department at Portsmouth Town Hall [2200 East Main Rd, Portsmouth, RI] or apply for the permit online.

To apply online, visit the Town of Portsmouth, RI website (www.portsmouthri.com), then select Building Inspection followed by the Online Permits link. Next click the Online Permitting Portal link and then select Apply for NEW permit. You are then required to either sign-in or set up a free account (for new users). From here you select Plumbing Permit and find your property by inputting your house number and street. Highlight the correct address, click Next, and fill in the relevant information (including selecting the appropriate box in the table for backflow preventer and level (e.g. basement, 1st floor).

NOTE: If you had the backflow preventer installed by a plumber you will need their name and license number. If you, as the property owner, performed the installation yourself you can input Homeowner in the master plumber field and 0000 in the license number field. If neither of these situations apply to you, contact Jimmy Folco (401.230.0632) for schedule an inspection and request aid in submitting your permit application. The permit cost is \$66 and you will need to wait for confirmation via email before submitting payment.

PENDING INSTALLATIONS – If you have not yet installed a backflow preventer in your home, you can perform the installation yourself (if you own the property) or engage a plumber to perform the work. [See the Customer Guidelines at www.pih2o.org for an updated list of installers.] If you engage a plumber, they are responsible for submitting the permit application. The homeowner can submit a permit application only if they are performing the installation themselves. Submit permit applications by following the instructions listed above.

INSPECTIONS – Once permit applications have been submitted, a qualified inspector will be informed by the Building Inspection office of the need to inspect the installed device. This individual will coordinate with the property owner to schedule an inspection (cost ~ \$65) and report findings to the Building Inspection department and PIWD.

NOTE: The PIWD will be individually notifying all property owners with “high hazard” situations (e.g. private well, below ground irrigation system, etc.) of their more specific and unique requirements for compliance.