

Washoe County Health District

Food Establishment Backflow Prevention Requirements

Washoe County Health District (WCHD) requires backflow prevention devices to be installed on all domestic water lines in every Food Establishment per the [Nevada Administrative Code \(NAC\) 445A.67185 to 445A.67255](#) and the [Regulations of the Washoe County District Board of Health Governing Food Establishments sections 070.033 to 070.059](#).

Specific requirements for backflow prevention devices are as follows:

From the Nevada Administrative Code:

NAC 445A.67195 Cross-connections and backflow: Minimum types of protection for particular service connections. (NRS 445A.860) Except as otherwise provided in NAC 445A.67185 to 445A.67255, inclusive, or authorized by the Division or the appropriate district board of health, the minimum type of protection from cross-connection required for a service connection to... [12] A restaurant or other facility in which food is served consists of a Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (RPPA).

From the Regulations of the Washoe County District Board of Health Governing Food Establishments:

§070.033 Backflow prevention device, design standard A backflow or back-siphonage prevention device installed on a water supply system shall meet American Society of Sanitary Engineering (A.S.S.E) standards for construction, installation, maintenance, inspection, and testing for that specific application and type of device.

§070.056 Backflow prevention device, when required A plumbing system shall be installed to preclude backflow of a solid, liquid, or gas contaminant into the water supply system at each point of use at the food establishment, including on a hose bib if a hose is attached or on a hose bib if a hose is not attached and backflow prevention is required by law by:

- A. Providing an air gap as specified in Section 070.032 of these regulations, or
- B. Installing an approved backflow prevention device as specified under Section 070.033 of these regulations.

§070.059 Backflow prevention device, location A backflow prevention device shall be located so that it may be serviced and maintained.

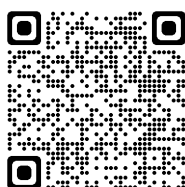
Multi-Unit Backflow Requirements:

If the food facility is a single space within a multi-unit building, a backflow device must be installed so that the individual unit cannot create a potential cross-connection and affect other units in the building. An RPPA must be installed on the incoming water supply line for the unit prior to the first connection or "T". Please note that the RPPA must be installed between 12 inches and 36 inches from the ground, and indirectly drained to an approved location. ***This backflow device must be tested annually, and test results must be made available to WCHD upon request.***

Backflow Alternative Option:

If an RPPA is not installed for the unit with a food facility, WCHD may allow the facility to provide a letter from a licensed backflow specialist stating that they have inspected the facility, the facility currently meets all backflow requirements, and the facility does not currently present a potential cross-connection hazard; therefore, the facility is not required to have a testable RPPA installed after the water meter for the single unit. The letter must be signed by a certified backflow specialist and include their certification number. ***If a facility is going to use the backflow specialist option, the facility must be inspected annually by a certified backflow specialist to verify compliance with current regulations. The most current inspection letter must be made available to WCHD upon request.***

[NAC Chapter 445A](#)



Scan to access

[WCHD Regulations Governing Food Establishments](#)



Scan to access