



CITY OF HORSESHOE BAY



Bill Teeter
Water Conservation Inspector
City of Horseshoe Bay
#1 Community Drive
Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657

Oct. 1, 2018

Dear Contractor:

Please read the attached bulletin covering construction site backflow prevention measures which the City of Horseshoe Bay will require at all construction sites beginning Oct. 1, 2018.

To summarize, building sites with temporary connections must be tied to City water only through a hose bibb on a PVC riser with an attached screw-on type vacuum breaker. The vacuum breaker's discharge opening must be set to a minimum height of 12 inches above the normal ground surface, and the riser must be reinforced by a stake. This rule applies to both existing temporary connections and those installed after October 1.

The connection must be within 5 feet of the meter and visible from the street. The vacuum breaker must be new when installed and may not be reused on another site.

Fines and misdemeanor charges are possible for removing the vacuum breakers before the connection becomes permanent.

Some exceptions using other types of connections may be allowed after consultation with City utilities personnel and a documented variance is granted. Any fire hose connection at a site must have a tested double check valve backflow prevention assembly where the hose attaches to the connection. The fire hose flow may not exceed the meter's maximum flow rate.

In all cases, we have developed procedures for certifying that connections are correctly done before we will allow water service at the site when a new connection is installed. The bulletin contains the details.

For existing connections, no request for an inspection is required, but City personnel will be looking for locations not in compliance. If a non-compliant connection is spotted, the City will compel contractors to bring the connection in line with requirements.

As stated in the bulletin, these new rules are needed to address water quality issues found to be resulting from construction site backflow events where vacuum breakers or other backflow prevention devices are not in use, are defective or are improperly installed.

We appreciate your attention to this matter. By following these guidelines, you will play a role in promoting clean drinking water in Horseshoe Bay while protecting your firm from potential legal liability.

If you have questions, please call me at 830-598-9973 or 830-613-1913 (cell).

Sincerely,

Bill Teeter