

Utilities Department

Cross Connection Control Program

Chapter 37 Changes and Water System Rate Schedule Public Hearings

August 29, 2017



Presentation Overview

- **Background**
- **Residential Program Revisions**
- **Chapter 37 Update**
- **Water System Rate Schedule**
- **Requested Actions**



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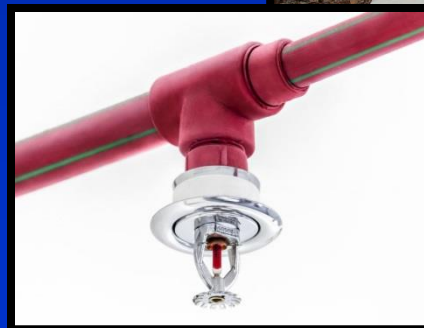
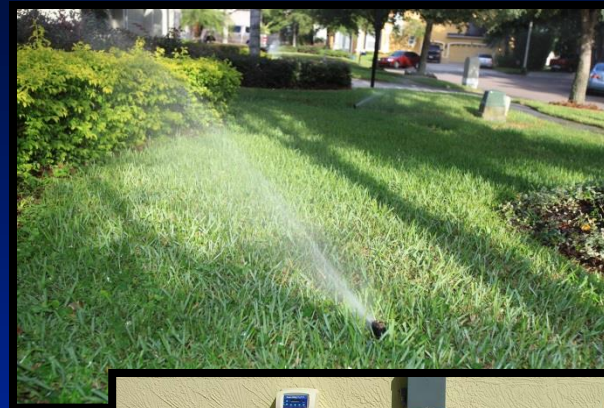
Background

- **Cross Connection Control Programs**
 - **Required by Regulations and Industry Standards**
 - Florida Administrative Code 62-555 and 62-610
 - Plumbing codes
 - American Water Works Association M14 Manual
 - **Established to Protect Public Health**
 - Eliminating potential cross connection hazards
 - Installing/maintaining an approved backflow preventer
 - **Provide a Systematic Way to Manage Risk to the County's Water System**

Background

■ Types of Cross Connections

- Irrigation systems
- Private wells
- Pool equipment
- Fire systems
- Industrial/commercial equipment
- Can be planned or inadvertent





Background

- Preventing Impact From Cross Connections
 - Eliminate the cross connection
 - Install/maintain an approved backflow preventer device





Background

- **Program Developed in 2001;
Updated in 2002 and 2009**
 - **FDEP inspections identified
need for program enhancement**
 - **Enforcement challenge**
 - **Only enforcement option
is to discontinue service**
 - **Customer testing and repair obligations – can be
burdensome and costly, especially for residential**
 - **Cross connections must be managed immediately
upon discovery**





Background

- **May 23, 2017 - presented proposed cross connection control program changes to the Board**
 - Provides for OCU testing, repair, and replacement of residential backflow preventers
 - Commercial program remains unchanged
- **July 18, 2017 - preliminary program fee approved**
- **August 29, 2017 – public hearings to approve**
 - Updates to Chapter 37 enabling program changes
 - Water System Rate Schedule establishing program fee



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Residential Program Revisions

■ Responsibilities

Risk Assessment
County

- Remains as a County activity
- No changes needed

Install Device
Customer/County

- Fund current device needs/gaps with a capital project
- Devices for new hazards remain the responsibility of the customer (new homes, adding irrigation systems, etc.)

Test Device
County

- County manages testing activity using private contractors
- Funding through existing water rates

Repair or Replace
the Device
County

- County assumes repair and replacement obligations
- Funding by monthly program fee



Residential Program Revisions

■ Revision Benefits

- Customers are not required to arrange testing/repair
- Improved compliance rate
- Volume buying power and operational efficiencies
lower total cost to the customer
- Retain market engagement by using contractors
- Avoid larger periodic repair costs for customers



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Chapter 37 Update

- Updated Definitions
- Backflow Preventer Tampering Prohibition
- Cross Connection Inspection Access Rights
- Testing, Repair, and Replacement
 - County responsibility for residential program
 - Property owner responsibility for all others



Chapter 37 Update

- **Residential Program Device Ownership**
 - **For existing properties/customers**
 - Ownership unchanged until device is replaced
 - Orange County Utilities is granted testing and maintenance authority
 - **For new connections or changes in use**
 - Ownership transfers to Orange County Utilities after initial inspection, testing, and acceptance



Chapter 37 Update

- **Causes for Discontinuing Service**
 - Existing cross connection
 - Tampering with a backflow preventer
 - Denial of property access for
 - Cross connection control hazard inspection
 - Residential device testing and maintenance



Chapter 37 Update

- **Requires Program Participation for Residential Properties That Are Both:**
 - Individually metered
 - Required to have a backflow preventer
- **Provides For A Program Fee**
- **Effective Date January 1, 2018**



Chapter 37 Update

■ Correction of Scrivener's Error

—Page 7, Line 269–270

- Draft — “Utilities Standards and Construction Specifications Manual, Orange County Utilities Cross Connection Control Manual, . . .”
- Final — “Utilities Standards and Construction Specifications Manual, ~~and~~ Orange County Utilities Cross Connection Control Manual, . . .”



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Water System Rate Schedule

- **Water Rate Resolution**
 - Adopts elements of existing rate resolution (2009-M-27)
 - Reflects rates currently in effect
 - Continues to provide for 3% annual adjustment to rates
- **Establishes Residential Program Fee**
 - \$3 per month
 - Applicable only to residential properties individually metered and required to have a backflow preventer
 - Not subject to 3% adjustment
 - Effective date January 1, 2018



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Requested Actions

▪ Requested Action #1

Adopt A Resolution Setting A Revised Water System Charge Schedule; Providing For An Automatic Annual Increase; Setting A Water Meter Charge Schedule; Setting A Cross Connection Control Program Fee Effective January 1, 2018; Providing For Periodic Review; Providing For Annual Notice To Customers; Providing For Severability; And Providing For An Effective Date.



Requested Actions

▪ Requested Action #2

Adopt An Ordinance Pertaining To Water And Wastewater Service In Orange County, Florida; Amending Orange County Code Chapter 37, Article I, Entitled Orange County Water, Wastewater And Reclaimed Water Service Rules; Article III, Entitled Water Wells; Addressing Conflicts Between Ordinances; And Providing For An Effective Date. And Correction Of Scrivener's Error.