CHAPTER 26

WATER

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The “Water Shortage Response Plan of Millersburg Borough” hereby adopted and attached hereto. This plan may be modified and updated by resolution of Council.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §1)


Those uses of water not essential to the protection of public health and safety are deemed nonessential. Nonessential uses of water may be restricted by voluntary and mandatory measures as prescribed and outlined with the water shortage response plan. A list of nonessential water uses is included in the plan.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §2)

§26-103. Mandatory Water Use Restrictions.

If during a water shortage period, a voluntary ban on nonessential uses of water has not sufficiently reduced the rate of depletion of water supply sources, and those sources have reached a level at which the response plan prescribes more severe demand reduction measures, a mandatory restriction of nonessential water uses shall be imposed. Those water service customers found not cooperating with this action shall face a surcharge of triple the then-current treatment rate for each day of noncompliance, or the curtailment of water service, whichever is deemed most appropriate.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §3)


If a water shortage emergency is declared by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania within an area which includes the service area of the Borough and both voluntary and mandatory restrictions of nonessential water uses have failed to sufficiently reduce the rate of depletion of all available water supply sources, and if the Borough plans for water rationing have been reviewed and approved by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council, water rationing may be implemented. The Millersburg Borough Water Rationing Plan is included in the water shortage response plan.

1 Water shortage response plan is on file at the Borough office.
(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §4)

§26-105. Exemptions.

Any water service customer(s) may apply to the Council for an exemption to the terms of this Part which may be granted by the Board upon adequate evidence of inequitable hardship imposed through adherence to the provisions of the plan.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §5)
PART 2
LIMITATION OF WATER WITH DEP SPECIFICATIONS

§26-201. Requirements.

No water shall be provided for internal or external use to any residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, governmental, or public building or structure of any kind which is constructed or remodeled and in which plumbing, water piping or water fixtures are to be installed, extended or altered in any way, and for which construction a permit is required to be obtained from the Borough (or would be required but for an exemption from permit requirement for public or governmental agencies) unless the new, extended or altered plumbing, water piping and other water-using fixtures therein conform to the requirements and standards of §26-204. The provisions of this Part shall apply to any such building or structure for which such a building permit is issued, or would otherwise be required to be issued but for such an exemption, on or after date of adoption.

(Ord. 3-1989, 7/13/1989, §1)


Customers shall be encouraged not to permit any water furnished by water purveyor to run to waste in any gutter or other impervious surface.

(Ord. 3-1989, 7/13/1989, §2)


Each resident or property owner of the Borough is urged to install fixtures which will reduce the quantity of water required to flush toilets and which will reduce the flow rates of showers and faucets.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §3)

§26-204. Department of Environmental Protection’s Recommended Specifications.

1. Water Closets Operated by Flush Tanks. The water consumption of water closets operated by flush tanks shall not exceed an average of 3.5 gallons per flush cycle over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The fixture shall perform in accordance with the flushing test requirements cited in the ANSI 122.19.2 Vitreous China Plumbing Fixture Standard.
2. Water Closets and Urinals Operated by Flush Valves.

A. Water closet water consumption shall not exceed an average of 3.5 gallons per flush cycle over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The flush valve shall be adjusted according to the manufacturer’s specifications. The fixtures shall perform in accordance with the flushing test requirements cited in the ANSI 122.19.2 Vitreous China Plumbing Fixture Standard. This restriction shall not apply to blow-out type water closets.

B. Urinal water consumption shall not exceed an average of 1.5 gallons per flush cycle over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The flush valve shall be adjusted according to the manufacturer’s specifications. The fixtures shall perform in accordance with the flushing test requirements cited in the ANSI 122.19.1 Vitreous China Plumbing Fixtures Standard. This restriction shall not apply to blow-out type urinals.

3. Shower Heads. Shower head discharge rates shall not exceed 2.75 gallons of water per minute over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The fixtures shall perform in accordance with the test requirements cited in the ANSI 112.18.1 Finished and Rough Brass Plumbing Fixtures Standards. This restriction shall not apply to safety or deluge showers.

4. Sink Faucets.

A. Kitchen sink faucet discharge rates shall not exceed 2.75 gallons of water per minute over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The fixture shall perform in accordance with the test requirements cited in the ANSI 112.18.1 Finished and Rough Brass Plumbing Fixture Fittings Standard.

B. Residential lavatory sink faucet discharge rates shall not exceed 2.75 gallons of water per minute over a range of test pressures from 20 to 80 psig. The fixture shall perform in accordance with the test requirements cited in the ANSI 112.18.1 Finished and Rough Brass Fittings Standard.

C. Nonresidential lavatory faucets shall be either self-closing or metering faucets as described below:

(1) Self-closing faucets shall not exceed an average discharge rate of 0.5 gallons of water per minute between the pressures of 20 to 80 psig when tested in accordance with the discharge test procedure cited in ANSI 112.18.1 Finished and Rough Brass Plumbing Fixture Fittings Standard.

(2) Metering faucets shall be field adjustable and set so that the discharge quantity shall not exceed 0.5 gallons of water per cycle.

5. Pressure Reducing Valves. Where the service water pressure to a building is expected to exceed 60 psig, a water pressure reducing valve with strainer shall be
installed just downstream of the building’s main valve, so as to be accessible. The valve shall provide for pressure adjustment within the range of 50 to 60 psig. The valve shall conform to the requirements of product standard ASSE 1003. Exemptions to this subsection are service lines to sill cocks, outside hydrants, and main supply risers to buildings where pressure from mains does not exceed 60 psig at the fixture branches or at individual fixtures.

(Ord. 3-1989, 7/13/1989, §4)

§26-205. Exceptions.

Any person(s) may apply to the Borough for an exception to the terms of this Part, which may be granted by the Council, upon proof that some other device, system or procedure will save as much or more water as those set forth herein, or that those set forth herein cannot be complied with, without undue hardship.

(Ord. 3-1989, 7/13/1989, §5)

§26-206. Amendments.

The Council may, from time to time, modify, add to, or remove from the standards and restrictions herein.

(Ord. 3-1989, 7/13/1989, §6)

§26-207. Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part, to use or apply water received from the Borough contrary to or in violation of the restrictions herein, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than $1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 2-1989, 7/13/1989, §7; as amended by A.O.)
PART 3
CONTROL OF BACKFLOW AND CROSS-CONNECTION

§26-301. General Policy.

1. Purpose. The purpose of this Part is:

   A. To protect the public water supply system from contamination or pollution by isolating within the consumer’s water system contaminants or pollutants which could backflow through the service connection into the public water system.

   B. To promote the elimination or control of existing cross-connections, actual or potential, between the public or consumer’s potable water system and non-potable water systems, plumbing fixtures and sources or systems containing process fluids.

   C. To provide for the maintenance of a continuing program of cross-connection control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of the public and consumer’s potable water system.

2. Application. This Part shall apply to all premises served by the public water supply system of Millersburg.

3. Policy. The public water supplier and the consumer have the joint responsibility for protection of the public water supply system from contamination due to backflow of contaminants through the water service connection. If in the judgment of the public water supplier or his authorized representative an approved backflow prevention device is required, the supplier shall give notice to the consumer to install such approved backflow prevention device at each service connection to his premises. The consumer shall immediately install such approved device or devices at his own expense, if he is a commercial or industrial user and if the facility is classified as other than a nonhazardous, and failure, refusal or inability on the part of the consumer to install such device or devices shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until such device or devices have been installed.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §1)


For the purpose of this Part, the following words shall have the meaning indicated unless clearly indicated otherwise in the text:
AIR GAP SEPARATION — the unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening from any pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle. The differential distance shall be at least double the diameter (2 x D) of the supply pipe measured vertically, above the top of the rim of the vessel. In no case shall the air gap be less than 1 inch.

APPROVED — that a backflow prevention device or method has been accepted by the public water supplier as suitable for the proposed use.

ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER — (also known as the nonpressure type vacuum breaker) — a device containing a shut-off valve followed by a valve body containing a float-check, a check seat and an air inlet port. When the shut-off valve is open, the flow of water causes the float to close the air inlet port. When the shut-off valve is closed, the float falls and forms a check valve against back siphonage and at the same time opens the air inlet port.

AUXILIARY WATER SYSTEM — any water source on the premises of or available to the consumer except connections to other approved community water supply systems.

BACKFLOW — a flow condition, induced by a differential in pressure, that causes the flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquids, gases or other substances into the distribution pipes of a potable water supply system from a source other than its intended source.

BACKFLOW PREVENTER — a device or other means which will prevent the backflow of water or liquids of questionable quality into the public water supply system.

BACKSIPHONAGE — the backflow of water or mixture of water and other liquids, gases or other substances from a plumbing fixture or other consumer source, into a public water supply system main due to a temporary negative or subatmospheric pressure within the public water supply system.

CONSUMER — the owner or person in control of any premises supplied by or in any manner connected to a public water supply system.

CONSUMER’S WATER SYSTEM — any water system, located on the consumer’s premises, supplied by or in any manner connected to a public water supply system. A household plumbing system is considered to be a consumer’s water system.

CONTAINMENT — cross-connection control which isolates the consumer’s entire facility from the public water supply system so as to provide the protection necessary to prevent contamination of the public water supply in the event of backflow from the consumer’s facility.
CONTAMINATION — degradation of the quality of the drinking water by wastewaters, processed fluids or any water of a quality less than accepted drinking water quality to a degree which would create an actual hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease.

CROSS-CONNECTION — an arrangement allowing either a direct or indirect connection through which backflow, including backsiphonage, can occur between the drinking water in a public water system and a system containing a source or potential source of contamination.

DEGREE OF HAZARD — an evaluation of the potential risk to health and the adverse effect upon the public water supply system.

DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLY — an assembly composed of two single, independently acting, check valves including tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly and suitable connections for testing water tightness of each check valve.

HEALTH HAZARD — any condition, device or practice in a water system or its operation that creates, or may create, a danger to the health and well being of its users. The word “severe” as used to qualify “health hazard” means a hazard to the health of the user that could reasonably be expected to result in significant morbidity or death.

INTERCHANGEABLE CONNECTION — an arrangement or device that will allow alternate, but not simultaneous, use of two sources of water.

NONPOTABLE WATER — water not safe for drinking, personal or culinary use.

PERSON — any individual, partnership, association, company, corporation, municipality, municipal authority, political subdivision or any Federal or State government. The term includes the officers and agents of any partnership, association, company, corporation, municipality, municipal authority, political subdivision or any agency of Federal or State government.

POLLUTION — the presence in the water of any foreign substance that tends to degrade its quality so as to constitute a hazard or impair the usefulness or quality of the water to a degree which does not create an actual hazard to the public health but which does adversely and unreasonably affect such waters for domestic use.

POTABLE WATER — water which is satisfactory for drinking, culinary and domestic purposes and meets the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection [A.O.]

PROCESS FLUIDS — any fluid or solution which may be chemically, biologically or otherwise contaminated or polluted in a form or concentration such as would
constitute a health, pollutional or system hazard if introduced into the public or consumer's water system. This includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Polluted or contaminated waters.
(2) Process waters.
(3)Used waters originating from the public water system which may have deteriorated in sanitary quality.
(4) Cooling waters.
(5)Contaminated natural waters taken from wells, lakes, streams or irrigation systems.
(6) Chemicals in solution or suspension.
(7) Oils, gases, acids, alkalis and other fluids and gaseous fluids used in industrial or other processes, or for firefighting purposes.
(8) Heating system waters from boilers or heat pumps.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIER — a person who owns or operates a public water system.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM — a system which provides water to the public for human consumption which has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves an average of at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year. The term is either a community or noncommunity water system and includes any collection, treatment, storage and distribution facilities under control of the operator of the system and used in connection with the system. The term includes collection or pretreatment storage facilities not under such control which are used in connection with the system. The term also includes a system which provides water for bottling or bulk hauling for human consumption.

REDUCED PRESSURE ZONE (RPZ) DEVICE — a minimum of two independently acting check valves, together with an automatically operated pressure differential relief valve located between the two check valves. During normal flow and at the cessation of normal flow, the pressure between these two checks shall be less than the supply pressure. In case of leakage of either check valve, the differential relief valve, by discharging to the atmosphere, shall operate to maintain the pressure between the checks at less than the supply pressure. The unit must include tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the device and each device shall be fitted with properly located test cocks.

SERVICE CONNECTION — the terminal end of a service line from the public water supply system. If a meter is installed at the end of the service, then the service connection means the downstream end of the meter.
SYSTEM HAZARD — a condition posing an actual or potential threat of damage to the physical properties of the public water system or the consumer’s potable water system.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §2; as amended by A.O.


1. The water system shall be considered as made up of two parts: the public water supply system and the consumer’s water system.

2. The public water supply system shall consist of the source facilities and the distribution system and shall include all those facilities of the public water supply system under the control of the public water supplier up to the point where the consumer’s water system begins.

3. The source shall include all components of the facilities utilized in the production, treatment, storage and delivery of water to the public distribution system.

4. The public distribution system shall include the network of conduits used for delivery of water from the source to the consumer’s water system.

5. The consumer’s water system shall include all facilities beyond the service connection which are utilized in conveying water from the public distribution system to points of use.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §3)


1. No water service connection shall be installed or maintained to any premises where actual or potential cross-connections to the public water supply system or consumer’s water system may exist unless such actual or potential cross-connections are abated or controlled to the satisfaction of the public water supplier.

2. The connection shall be installed or maintained whereby water from the auxiliary water supply may enter a public or consumer’s water system unless such auxiliary water supply and the method of connection and use of such supply have been approved.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §4)
§26-305. Survey and Investigations.

1. The consumer’s premises shall be open at all reasonable times to the public water supplier, or his authorized representative, for the purposes of conducting surveys and investigations of water use practices within the consumer’s premises to determine whether there are actual or potential cross-connections to the consumer’s water system through which contaminants or pollutants could backflow into the public potable water system.

2. On request by the public water supplier the consumer shall furnish information on water use practices within his premises.

3. It shall be the responsibility of the water consumer to conduct periodic surveys of water use practices on his premises to determine whether there are actual or potential cross-connections to his water system through which contaminants or pollutants could backflow into the public water supply system.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §5)

§26-306. Where Protection is Required.

1. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed prior to the first branch line leading off each service line to a consumer’s water system where, in the judgment of the public water supplier, an actual or potential hazard to the public water supply system exists.

2. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed on each service line to a consumer’s water system where the following conditions exist:

   A. Systems having an auxiliary water supply, unless such auxiliary supply is accepted as an additional source by the public water supplier and approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. [A.O.]

   B. Systems where any substance is handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the public water supply system. This shall include systems having sources or auxiliary systems containing process fluids or waters originating from the public water supply system which are no longer under the sanitary control of the water purveyor.

   C. Systems having internal cross-connections that, in the judgment of the public water supplier, are not correctable or intricate plumbing arrangements which make it impractical to determine whether or not cross-connections exist.

   D. Systems where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it is impossible or impractical to make a complete cross-connection survey.
E. Systems having a repeated history of cross-connections being established or reestablished.

F. Others specified by the public water supplier.

3. An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed on each line to a consumer’s water system serving, but not necessarily limited to, the following types of facilities unless the public water supplier determines that no actual or potential hazard to the public water supply system exists.

A. Hospitals, mortuaries, clinics, nursing homes.

B. Laboratories.

C. Piers, docks, waterfront facilities.

D. Sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping station or stormwater pumping station.

E. Food or beverage processing plants.

F. Chemical plants.

G. Metal plating industries.

H. Petroleum processing or storage plants.

I. Radioactive material processing plants.

J. Car wash or truck wash.

K. Others specified by the water purveyor.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §6; as amended by A.O.

§26-307. Type of Protection Required.

The type of protection required under §26-306(1), (2) and (3) of this Part shall depend on the degree of hazard which exists as follows:

A. An approved air gap separation shall be installed where the public water supply system may be contaminated with substances that are dangerous to the public health and could cause a severe health hazard.

B. An approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure zone backflow prevention device shall be installed where the public water supply sys-
tem may be contaminated with a substance that could cause a system or health hazard.

C. An approved air gap separation or an approved reduced pressure zone backflow prevention device or an approved double check valve assembly shall be installed where the public water supply system may be polluted with substances that would be objectionable but not dangerous to health.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §7)


1. Any backflow prevention device required by this Part shall be of a model or construction approved by the public water supplier and shall comply with the following:

A. Air gap separation to be approved shall be at least twice the diameter of the supply pipe, measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel, but in no case less than 1 inch.

B. A double check valve assembly or a reduced pressure zone backflow prevention device shall be approved by the public water supplier and shall mean a device that has been manufactured in full conformance with the standards established by the American Water Works Association entitled:

AWWA C506 Standards for Reduced Pressure Principle and Double Check Valve Backflow Prevention Devices

Said AWWA standards are herein adopted by the public water supplier. Final approval, however, of the “Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer” and the “Double Check Valve Assembly” shall be evidenced by a certificate of full approval issued by an approved testing laboratory certifying full compliance with the AWWA standards.

C. An interchangeable connection to be approved shall be either a swing type connector or a four-way valve of the lubricated plug type that operates through a mechanism which unseats the plug, turns it 90° and reseats the plug. Fourway valves shall not be used as stop valves but must have separate stop valves on each pipe connected to the valve. The telltale port on the four-way valve shall have no piping connected and the threads or flange on this port shall be destroyed so that a connection cannot be made.

2. Existing backflow prevention devices approved by the public water supplier at the time of installation and properly maintained shall, except for inspection and
maintenance requirements, be excluded from the requirement of §26-308(1) of this Part providing the public water supplier is assured that they will satisfactorily protect the public potable supply system. Whenever the existing device is moved from the present location or requires more than minimum maintenance or when the public water supplier finds that the maintenance of the device constitutes a hazard to health, the device shall be replaced by a backflow prevention device meeting the requirements of this Part.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §8)

§26-309. Installation.

1. Backflow prevention devices required by this Part shall be installed at a location and in a manner approved by the public water supplier and shall be installed by a person properly qualified and at the expense of the water consumer, if he is a commercial or industrial user and if the facility is classified as other than non-hazardous. This installation must be made within 90 days after the consumer is notified by the Millersburg Area Authority to install the backflow prevention device.

2. Backflow prevention devices installed on the service line to a consumer’s water system shall be located on the consumer’s side of the water meter, as close to the meter as is reasonably practical, and prior to any other construction.

3. Pits or vaults shall be of watertight construction, be so located and constructed as to prevent flooding and shall be maintained free from standing water by means of either a sump pump or suitable drain. Such sump pump or drain shall not connect to a sanitary sewer nor permit flooding of the pit or vault by reverse flow from its point of discharge. An access ladder and adequate natural or artificial lighting shall be provided to permit maintenance inspection and testing of the backflow prevention device.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §9)

§26-310. Inspection and Maintenance.

1. It shall be the duty of the consumer at any premises on which backflow prevention devices required by this Part are installed to have inspections, tests and overhaul made in accordance with the following schedule or more often where inspections indicate a need.

   A. Air separation shall be inspected at time of installation and at least every 12 months thereafter.

   B. Double check valve assemblies shall be inspected and tested for rightness at the time of installation and at least every 12 months thereafter. They shall
be dismantled, inspected internally, cleaned and repaired whenever needed and at least every 30 months.

C. Reduced pressure backflow prevention devices shall be inspected and tested for tightness at the time of installation and at least every 12 months thereafter. They shall be dismantled, inspected internally, cleaned and repaired whenever needed and at least every 5 years.

D. Interchangeable connections shall be inspected at the time of installation and at least every 12 months thereafter.

2. For commercial and industrial users, if other than nonhazardous, inspections, tests and overhaul of backflow prevention devices shall be made at the expense of the water consumer and shall be performed by the public water supplier or a person certified to inspect, test and overhaul backflow prevention devices.

3. For commercial and industrial users, if other than nonhazardous, whenever backflow prevention devices required by this Part are found to be defective, they shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the consumer without delay.

4. For commercial and industrial users, if other than nonhazardous, the water consumer must maintain a complete record of each backflow prevention device from purchase to retirement. This shall include a comprehensive listing that includes a record of all tests, inspections and repairs. Records of inspections, tests, repairs and overhaul shall be submitted to the public water supplier upon request.

5. Backflow prevention devices shall not be bypassed, made inoperative, removed or otherwise made ineffective without specific authorization by the water supplier.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §10)


1. Where a booster pump has been installed on the service line to or within any premises, such pump shall be equipped with a low pressure cut-off device designed to shut-off the booster pump when the pressure in the service line on the suction side of the pump drops to 10 pounds per square inch gauge or less for a period of 30 seconds or longer.

2. It shall be the duty of the water consumer to maintain the low pressure cut-off device in proper working order and to certify to the public water supplier, at least once a year, that the device is operating properly.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §11)
§26-312. Violations.

1. The public water supplier may deny or discontinue, after reasonable notice to the occupants thereof, the water service to any premises wherein any backflow prevention device required by this Part is not installed, tested and maintained in a manner acceptable to the public water supplier, or if it is found that the backflow prevention device has been removed or bypassed, or if an unprotected cross-connection exists on the premises, or if a low pressure cut-off device required by this Part is not installed and maintained in working order.

2. Water service to such premises shall not be restored until the consumer has corrected or eliminated such conditions or defects in conformance with this Part and to the satisfaction of the public water supplier.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §12)

§26-313. Penalties.

If the owner, after receiving due notice, refuses to comply with the terms hereof, he shall be guilty of a violation of this Part, and shall, upon conviction thereof, pay a fine of no more than $1,000 and the costs of prosecution, and, in default of payment of such fine and costs of prosecution, to undergo imprisonment of not more than 30 days. Further, each day's continuance shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 6-1992, 11/12/1992, §13; as amended by A.O.)