



# CITY OF BISHOP

377 West Line Street - Bishop, California 93514

Post Office Box 1236 - Bishop, California 93515

760-873-8458 publicworks@ca-bishop.us

[www.ca-bishop.us/CityofBishopPublicWorks.htm](http://www.ca-bishop.us/CityofBishopPublicWorks.htm)

## **Public Works News Release**

### **Blankets for Safe Water**

As weather turns colder, protect backflow devices from freezing. If a backflow device freezes, it will likely be damaged. Once damaged, the devices won't work properly and can be expensive to repair or replace. In addition, damaged backflow devices can lead to contamination of the city's water system. To prevent freeze damage, backflow devices should be protected during cold weather with blankets, enclosures, or other means.

Backflow devices protect the city's water system from contamination. Most often, the contamination they prevent is contamination from irrigation systems. Normally, the high pressure in the city's water system prevents contamination from entering the system but, when pressure in the system is lost, due to a broken water main for example, contamination can leak back into the city's system and make the water in it unfit for consumption. This type of contamination of the city's system is called backflow and is what backflow preventers are meant to stop.

State law and city code require that working backflow devices be properly installed on all irrigation systems. If the backflow devices are not in place and or are not working properly, the water is required to be shut off. Some additional information on backflow devices is available on the City of Bishop website.

Save money. Ensure the safety of the water system. Install and maintain backflow devices on irrigations systems and other places where they are required. Then, protect those devices from freezing so they will work properly.

For more information contact City of Bishop Public Works at publicworks@ca-bishop.us or 760-873-8458. Press releases posted at <http://www.ca-bishop.us/Advertisements/Releases/Releases.html>