

November 24, 2014

**SUBJECT: BACKFLOW DEVICE THEFT PREVENTION**

Our Valued Water Customers:

As per City of Grand Junction Resolution No. 89-99, if you have an underground sprinkler system connected to a domestic water source, you must have a backflow device. Not only is a backflow device a necessary tool used to help keep our drinking water safe, it is a financial investment for property owners. Unfortunately, once a backflow device has been drained and winterized for the season, your device becomes a prime target for theft. The City of Grand Junction Backflow Prevention Program recognizes this problem and has several tips on how you can make your backflow device less prone to theft.

- Install unions at the inlet and outlet pipes - once winterized, you can remove entire device
- Enclose your backflow device in a cage – several companies manufacture these cages
- Blend your device into the landscape or use an “artificial” rock cover to disguise it
- Wrap your device with a cable and anchor it in the ground
- Spray paint your device – this lowers the value of the scrap metal (try not to paint test ports)
- Search the internet for “backflow theft” prevention tips and ideas

Should your backflow device ever be stolen, call Non-Emergency Police Dispatch immediately at (970) 242-6707 and then notify the Cross Connection Control Coordinator. I will have the serial number, make and model of your backflow device. Once a theft is reported, I work closely with the Grand Junction Police Department to provide any information that may be useful in the recovery of the stolen device.

Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your help keeping our drinking water safe!

Respectfully,



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