



Office of the City Clerk

December 20, 2022

I, Mary Csukas, Dahlonega City Clerk, certify under my office's seal that the attached document is a true and accurate copy of the Ordinance 2022-13, Short Title: "An ordinance to allow for Water System Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention."

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA, CHAPTER: 34; TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN, INCLUDING BACKFLOW PREVENTION; TO INCORPORATE AND ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN; TO PROVIDE FOR INSPECTIONS BY THE CITY OF DAHLONEGA OR ITS DESIGNEE; TO PROVIDE FOR REQUIRED INSPECTIONS AND TESTING BY THE CUSTOMER; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF CHARGES AND FEES; TO IDENTIFY VIOLATIONS; FOR OTHER PURPOSES.



Mary Csukas, City Clerk



Ordinance 2022-13

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA, CHAPTER: 34; TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN INCLUDING BACKFLOW PREVENTION; TO INCORPORATE AND ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN; TO PROVIDE FOR INSPECTIONS BY THE CITY OF DAHLONEGA OR ITS DESIGNEE; TO PROVIDE FOR REQUIRED INSPECTIONS AND TESTING BY THE CUSTOMER; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF CHARGES AND FEES; TO IDENTIFY VIOLATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Short Title: "An ordinance to allow for Water System Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention."

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 391-3-5-.13 of the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water, the City Council of the City of Dahlonega, Georgia ("City") desires to protect the City's potable water supply from the possibility of contamination and pollution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Dahlonega, Georgia desires to promote the elimination or control of cross connections between the potable water system and non-potable water systems; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Dahlonega, Georgia desires to provide for the maintenance of a cross-connection control program to ensure prevention of contamination or pollution of the City's potable water systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained, and it is so ordained by the authority of the City Council of Dahlonega, that Chapter 34, shall be amended by adding a new Article V which shall read as follows:

ARTICLE V. – WATER SYSTEM CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Sec. 34-149. – Applicability

This Ordinance applies to any customer or system supplied by the City's public water distribution system including irrigation sprinklers, fire protection systems, residential systems, commercial, governmental and all other service connections.

Sec. 34.-150. – Cross-Connection Control Plan

The Mayor and Council hereby adopt the Cross-Connection Control Plan dated February of 2022 prepared by Turnipseed Engineers (the "Plan") which is incorporated into this Ordinance by reference and made a part hereof. The City Council may, from time to time, amend the Plan by resolution. Compliance with the Plan is required by all City water service customers. The Plan shall be implemented by the City.

Sec. 34.-151. – Definitions

The words, terms, and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan as incorporated herein by reference, except where context clearly indicates a different meaning. For reference, the Plan's definition of cross-connection is as follows: A connection or potential connection between any part of a potable water system and any other environment containing other substances in a manner that, under any circumstances would allow such substances to enter the potable water system. Other substances may be gases, liquids, or solids, such as chemicals, waste products, steam, water from other sources (potable or non-potable), or any matter that may change the color or add odor to the water.

Sec. 34-152. – Enforcement

Where cross-connections are found to exist, it shall be required by the City for the problem to be eliminated or isolated by an approved, properly installed backflow preventer or backflow device a/k/a backflow assembly or backflow prevention assembly. The terms are used interchangeably herein. The City will undertake reasonable effort to secure the voluntary cooperation of the customer in correcting the hazard through written notice. The written notice shall provide a time limit with which the customer has to install the backflow prevention assembly. The time frames shall be a maximum of 90 days for low level hazards, and a maximum of 14 days for high hazards. Failure to install the backflow prevention assembly within the time provided will result in immediate disconnection of water services until such time that an approved, properly installed backflow prevention assembly is in place. High Hazards are determined based on the potential for contamination or causing health hazards. Low Hazards are classified as pollutant or nuisance hazard only.

Sec. 34.-153. – Customer requirements

- 1) The customer shall be responsible for the elimination of or protection against all cross-connections on their property. The customer shall be responsible for the payment of all fees as they relate to the City's water service agreement, or for any required permits, annual or semi-annual device testing, retesting in the case that the device fails to operate correctly, and all subsequent testing required to remain in compliance with the Plan's requirements.
- 2) In the event the required periodic testing reveals a malfunction of the backflow preventer, the customer shall be responsible for correcting the malfunction within 30 days.
- 3) The customer shall not install a bypass around any backflow preventer without the presence of a backflow preventer of the same type on the bypass, and shall install backflow preventers in a manner and type approved by the City, or in accordance with

Sec. 608 of the Georgia State Minimum Standard Plumbing Code, (International Plumbing Code).

- 4) The customer shall inform the City of any proposed or modified cross-connection and of any known cross-connection that City has not discovered.
- 5) Reduced pressure, principal backflow prevention assemblies shall not be installed in locations subject to possible flooding, including pits and/or vaults that are not provided with a gravity drain to the ground's surface capable of exceeding the discharge rate of the relief valve.
- 6) Customers having a private well or other auxiliary water supply source shall not have a cross-connection to the City's water system without a backflow preventer being installed and maintained at the water service entrance in accordance with the Plan. Such cross-connection requires prior written approval by the Cross-Connection Control Plan Manager or designees. Discovery of an uncontrolled cross-connection to an auxiliary water source will result in discontinuance of water service until a proper backflow prevention device is installed.
- 7) Any plumbing installed on the City's side of the backflow preventer for providing potable water for domestic purposes must have a City-approved backflow preventer installed.
- 8) The discovery by a customer of accidental contamination or pollution of the public water system caused by backflow or back-siphonage shall immediately be reported to the City. Failure to do so is punishable by local, state and federal law.

Sec. 34.- 154. – Determination of backflow method

The following risk factors will be evaluated by the City to aid in determining the appropriate backflow method: existence of cross-connections; nature of materials existing/handled on the property; probability of backflow occurring; complexity of the piping system; and potential for system modification.

Sec. 34.- 155. – Inspections

Inspection of properties for cross-connection hazards will be performed on a priority basis with those cross-connections deemed as high hazards being inspected first. Subsequent inspections will occur to ensure that cross-connection hazards have been corrected. Upon request from the City, customers shall be required to furnish all pertinent information regarding the property and water system. Notwithstanding inspections performed by the City, the customer is responsible for performing periodic inspections to ensure compliance with the Plan. If an inspection reveals a high hazard condition that, in the sole discretion of the City, poses an imminent risk to the public water system, water service may be immediately discontinued until the risk is remedied.

Sec. 34.- 156. – Existing backflow prevention devices

Existing backflow prevention devices currently in use shall be allowed by the City, provided the device tests satisfactorily according to the Plan. In the case of potential increased hazard, the existing backflow preventer must be upgraded to a reduced pressure, principal device or a testable double check valve, depending on the increased hazard level as determined by the City.

Sec. 34.- 157. – Selection of backflow prevention devices

The City shall have ultimate authority in determining the required type of backflow device.

Sec. 34.- 158. – Approval of backflow prevention devices

All backflow prevention devices shall be in compliance with the applicable standard of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering, the American national Standards Institute, the American Water Works Association, the University of Southern California Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research, and the Georgia State Plumbing Code, latest edition. In the event no standard exists for a particular device, or is a derivative of one covered by a national standard, the City shall determine if the device will be allowed.

Sec 34.- 159. – Installation of backflow prevention devices

Placement of backflow prevention devices shall be in an area that provides a safe environment for testing and maintenance. The area shall be easily accessible and free from extreme cold, heat, and/or electrical hazards. Installation for containment shall be performed by a City approved licensed plumbing, mechanical, or utility contractor.

Sec. 34.- 160. – Maintenance and inspection of backflow prevention devices

Customers are responsible for regular, periodic inspections and testing of backflow prevention devices to ensure the device is functioning properly. The customer is responsible for all costs associated with the inspection and testing. Testing shall be performed immediately after installation; at least 12 months after installation, after device has been disassembled for cleaning or repairs; and when there is an indication the device is not functioning properly.

In the event a backflow preventer should fail a periodic test, the backflow preventer shall be repaired or replaced immediately, and then retested to ensure proper functioning. High hazard situations, as determined by the City, will not be allowed to continue unprotected if the backflow preventer fails the test and cannot be repaired immediately. In other situations, the customer shall have no more than THIRTY (30) DAYS to become compliant.

Backflow prevention devices shall be tested more frequently in those instances where there is a history of failures and when the City believes additional testing is required due to the hazard involved. Failure of the customer to make required repairs within the prescribed time period will be subject to termination of water service upon written notice.

Test reports must be turned in to the City, or their designee, within THIRTY (30) DAYS of completion of the test and must include the specific location and register numbers of the device and meter. Failure to submit the report to the City, or their designee, within 30 days may result in the report being declared null and void.

Sec.- 34-161.- Charges and fees

The Mayor and City Council may adopt, by separate resolution, charges, surcharges and fees for application, operation, inspection, enforcement, administration and reimbursement of costs incurred pursuant to this Article. Said fee schedule shall be on file at the City's main office located at 465 Riley Road, Dahlongega, Georgia.

Except as modified herein, The Code of the City of Dahlongega, Georgia, is hereby reaffirmed and restated. The codifier is hereby granted editorial license to include this amendment in future supplements of said Code by appropriate section, division, article or chapter. The City Attorney is directed and authorized to direct the codifier to make necessary minor, non-substantive corrections to the provisions of this Code, including but not limited to, the misspelling of words, typographical errors, duplicate pages, incorrect references to state or federal laws, statutes, this Code, or other codes or similar legal or technical sources, and other similar amendments, without necessity of passage of a corrective ordinance or other action of the Mayor and Council. The City Clerk shall, upon the written advice or recommendation of the city attorney and without the necessity of further council action, alter, amend or supplement any non-codified ordinance, resolution or other record filed in his or her office as necessary to effect similar non-substantive changes or revisions and ensure that such public records are correct, complete and accurate.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2022.

SO ORDAINED, this ⁵ _____ day of October 2022.

Approved: DocuSigned by:
Mayor JoAnne Taylor
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JoAnne Taylor, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Mary Csukas
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Mary Csukas, City Clerk