Orange County Backflow Tester: Online Refresher Class



2020

Water Quality Section OC Environmental Health V1.2 12/2/20

Agenda

- I. Instructions
- II. Introduction
- III. Backflow Testing Review
 - RP, DC, SVB, PVB
- IV. Submittal of Test Reports
- V. Certification Testing
- VI. Recertification Testing
- VII. Enforcement
- VIII. FAQs
- IX. Coming Soon
- X. Quiz!





I. Instructions

- 1. Please read the chapters presented in this training very carefully.
- 2. Once you have completed the training, please complete the attached quiz and email the completed quiz to OCBackFlowTests@OCHCA.com. You must get at least 70% or above on the quiz. The quiz is open book and presentation, but please complete it yourself.
- 3. You will receive a training certificate by email once we receive and review your passing quiz.
- -Please contact us at OCBackFlowTests@OCHCA.com if you have any questions and type "2020 Backflow Tester Training" in the Subject line of the email.
- *NOTE: Orange County Health Care Agency= OCHCA (the health department)



II. Introduction

Dear Backflow Testers,

Due to social distancing restrictions from COVID-19, this session we are offering our backflow training online. Below are some tips from the State Water Resources Control Board concerning backflow testing during this unprecedented time:

- Any newly discovered cross connections must be corrected immediately to protect public health: locking out water meters while corrective actions are being taken would be appropriate if it is needed to prevent distribution system contamination.
- Backflow prevention device testing should continue as scheduled when possible. However, since testing
 is an annual requirement, Public Water Systems (PWS) should consider providing flexibility to customers
 on device testing due dates, provided testing can be completed within the calendar year.
- Failed devices should be repaired or replaced immediately. PWS should consider providing assistance to customers to ensure testing and corrective actions can be completed in a timely manner, for example, device repair and replacement services when testers or contractors are not available, or customers are unable to coordinate.
- Recycled water use site cross connection tests should continue as scheduled when possible, but flexibility should be considered, provided they are completed within the calendar year.
- Backflow testers are essential workers, whether they are PWS employees, are contracted by the PWS, or are hired directly by customers.
- Most backflow devices should be in areas where maintaining safe social distance would not be a concern. For devices where a safe distance cannot be maintained (for example, interior devices) consider deferring those tests until later in the year and moving up other, safer test locations.

Please remember that both **you** and **your work** are important in ensuring the safety of the public water system. Thank you, stay safe out there, and remember to wash your hands!



Lauren Robinson, REHS, CCS Water Quality Supervisor OCHCA

III. Backflow Testing Review





Backflow Testing Review- Gauges

Approved Gauges and Proof of Calibration

- Approved Gauges can be found at:
 - USC Foundation of Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research https://fccchr.usc.edu/fieldtestkitslist.html
 - ► Refer to the USC Manual of Cross-Connection Control 10th Edition Chapter 10.2 for a standard for a field test kit.

Proof of Calibration

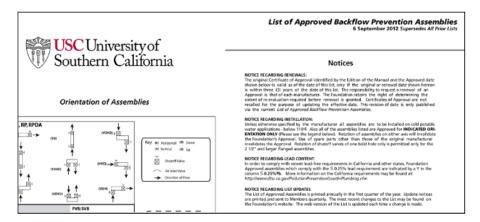
 Your test gauge must be within the calibration period (typically 1 year) to be used for testing devices and for certification.



Backflow Testing Review- Gauges

List of Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies

The List of Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies continues to be a valuable source of information for anyone involved in cross-connection control. Keeping up-to-date with the most current List is crucial. The best way to stay current is downloading the List from the USC Foundation's website since it is updated as changes are made to the List.



The List is comprised of backflow prevention assemblies, which have successfully completed the laboratory and field evaluation phases of the Foundation's Approval Program. The backflow prevention assemblies are approved for a period of three years and this approval is subject to renewal.

Download Now

Excel (Complete List)

PDF (Complete List)

Web App (Mobile Devices)

PDF (New Additions Only)

Buy Now

2016 USC List

Lead Free Parts

Spare Parts Information

Added Benefit for USC Foundation Members

The List is updated numerous times

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III. Backflow Testing Review: RP





Backflow Testing Review: RP

Equipment required:

- Approved Differential Pressure Gauge
- 3 high pressure hoses (1/4"D x 6 ft long)
- Adapter fittings for each size test cock

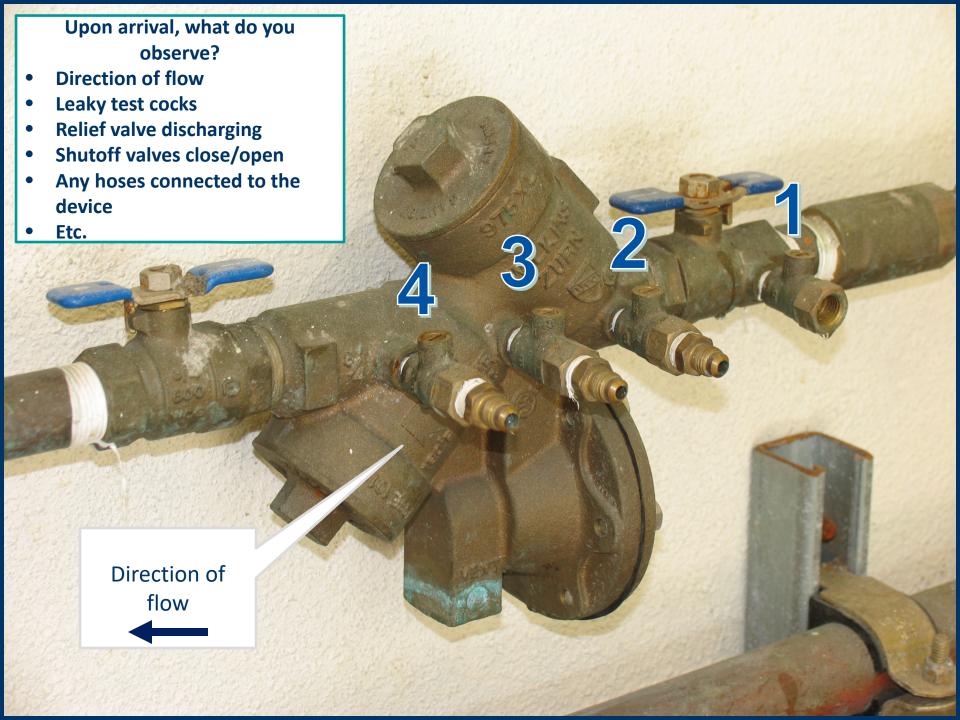


Backflow Testing Review: RP

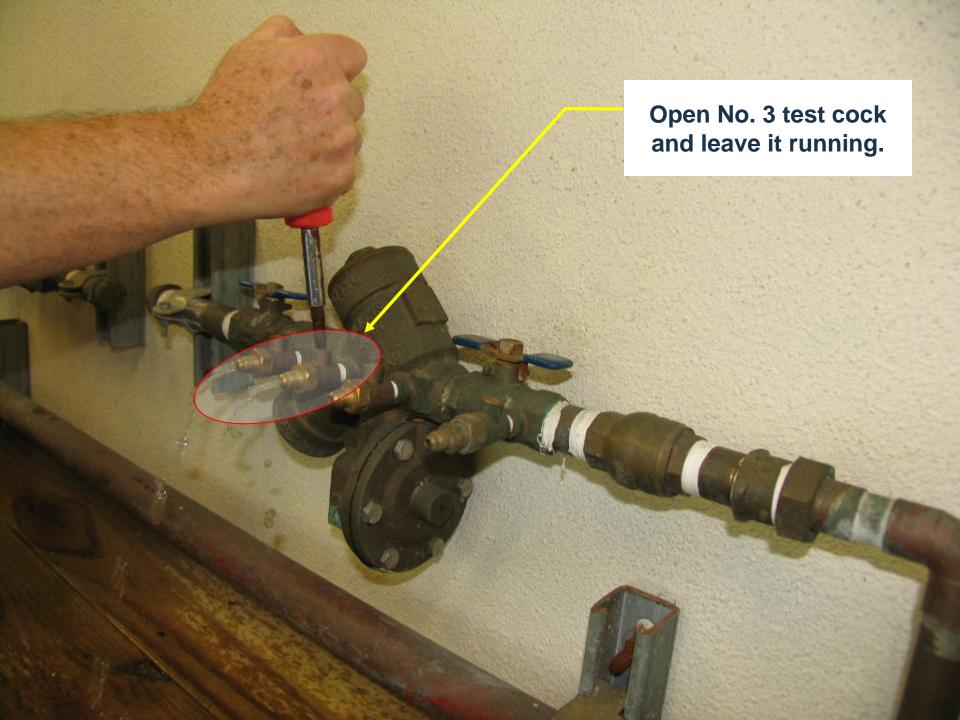
Preliminary Steps

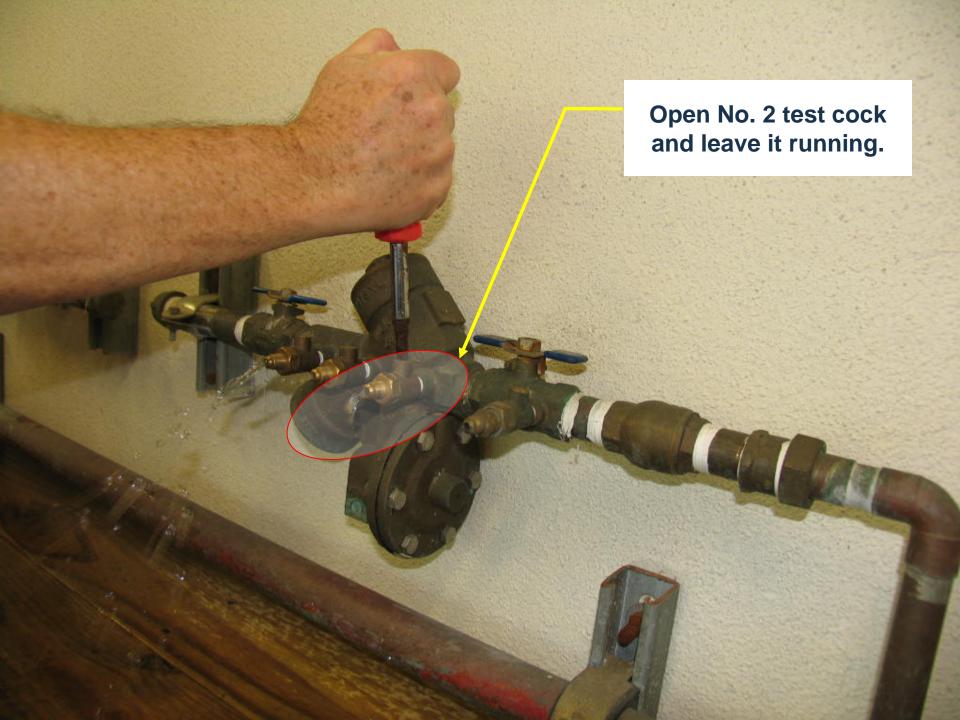
- Notify
- Identify
- Inspect
- Observe





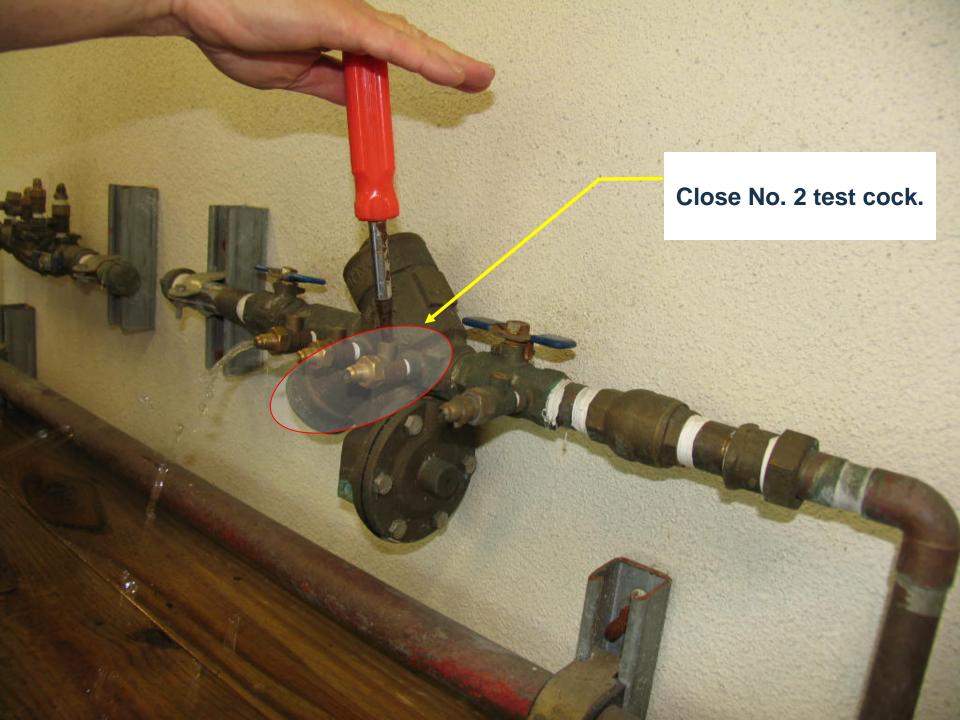


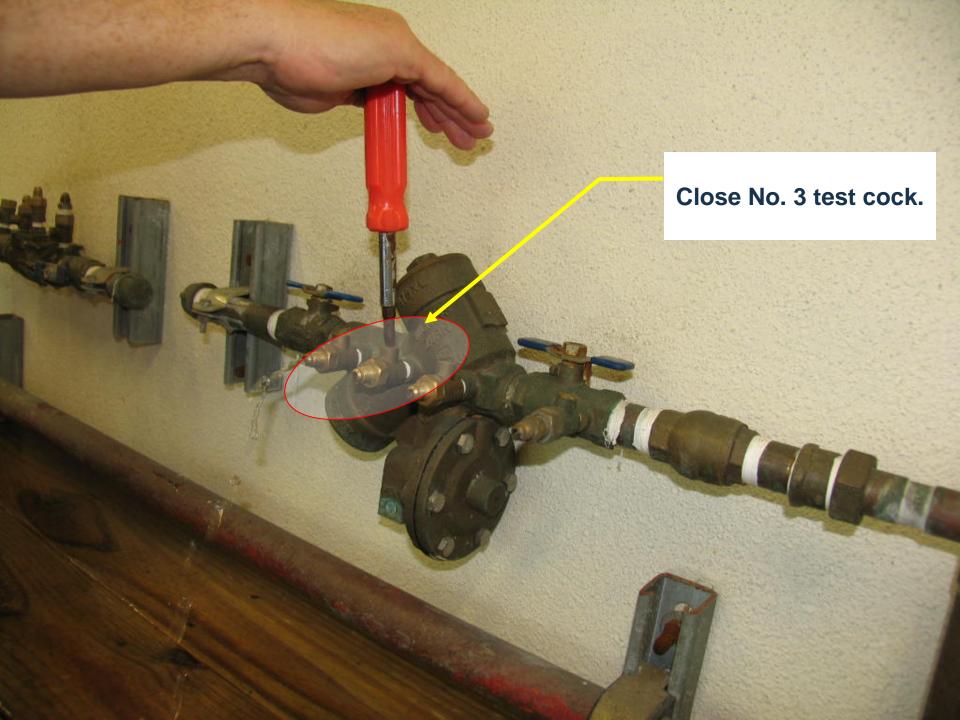




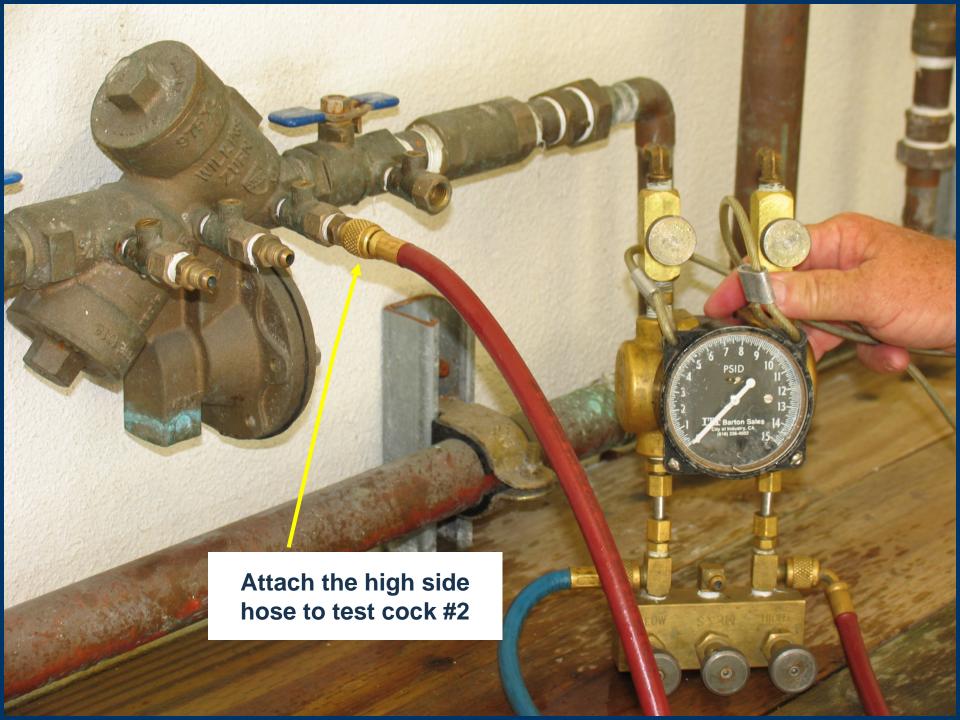


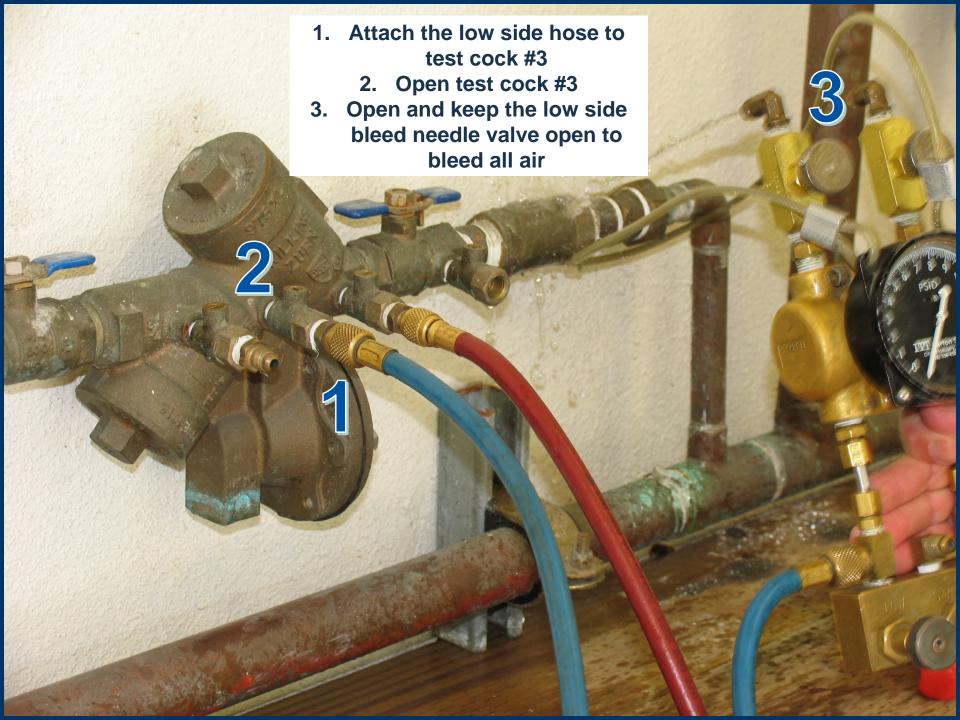


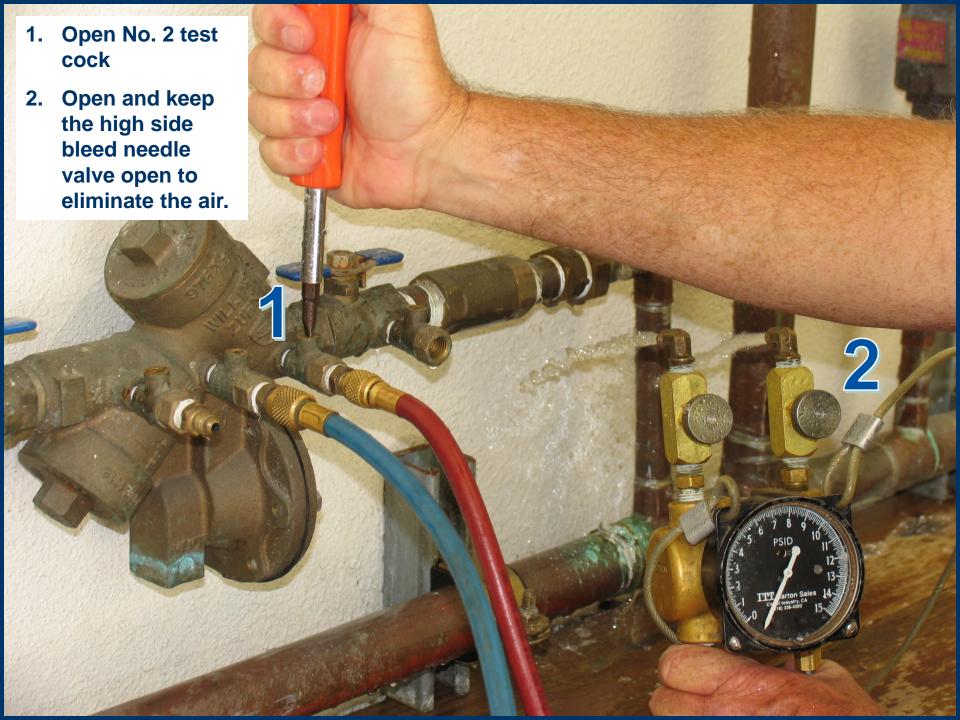


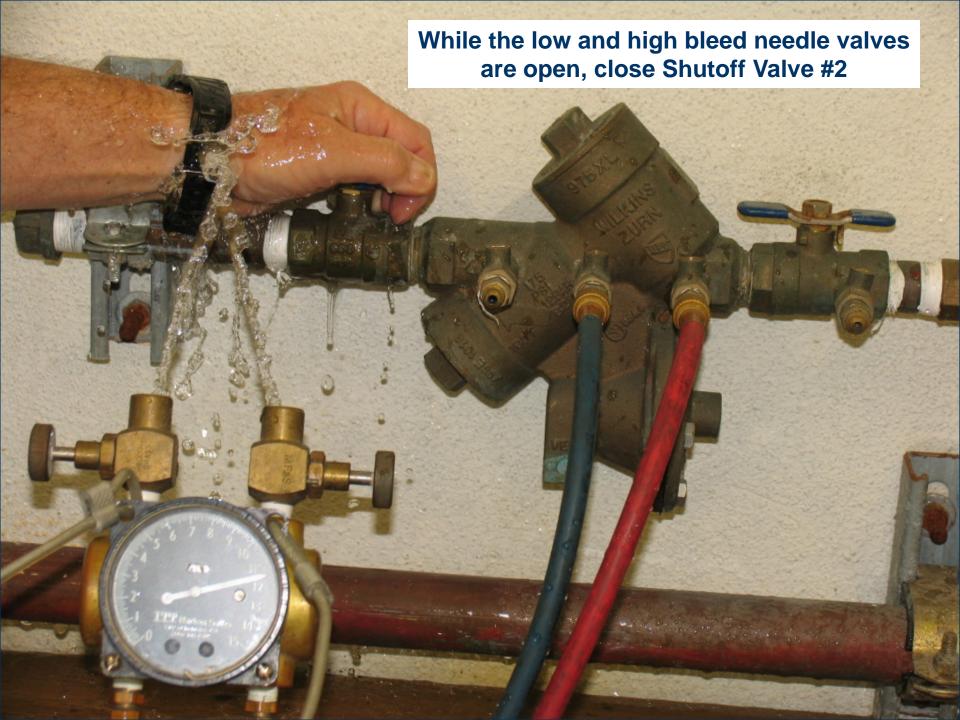


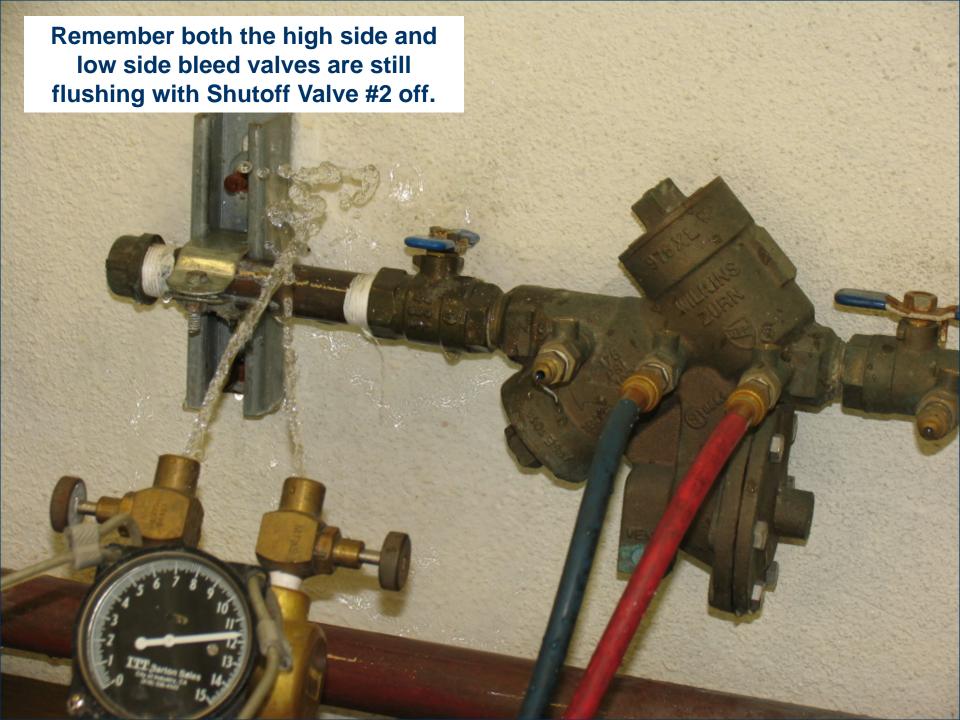


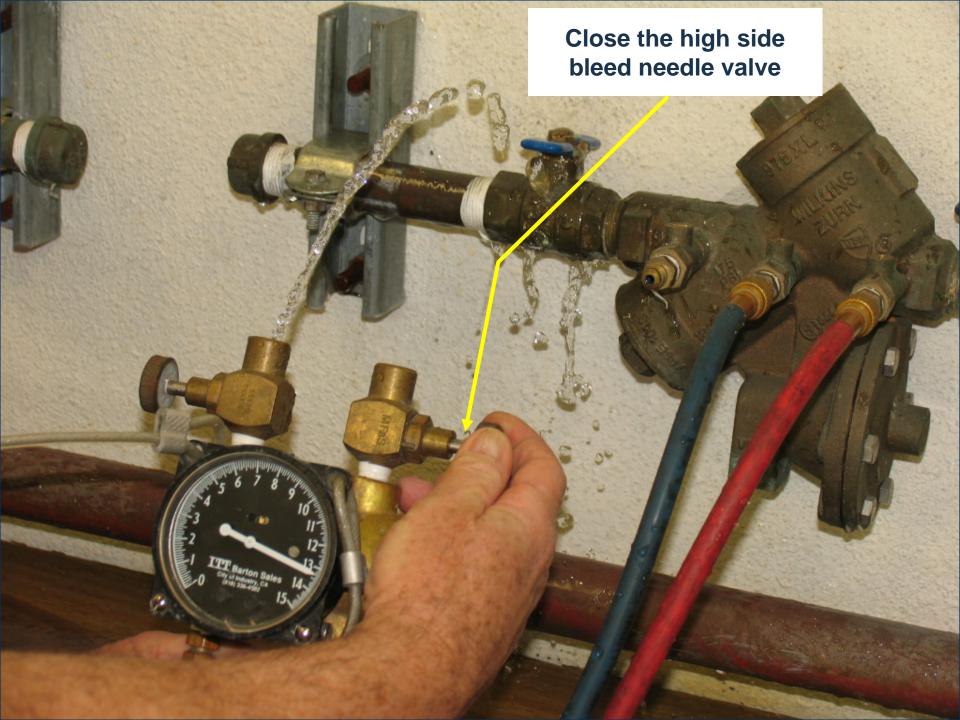


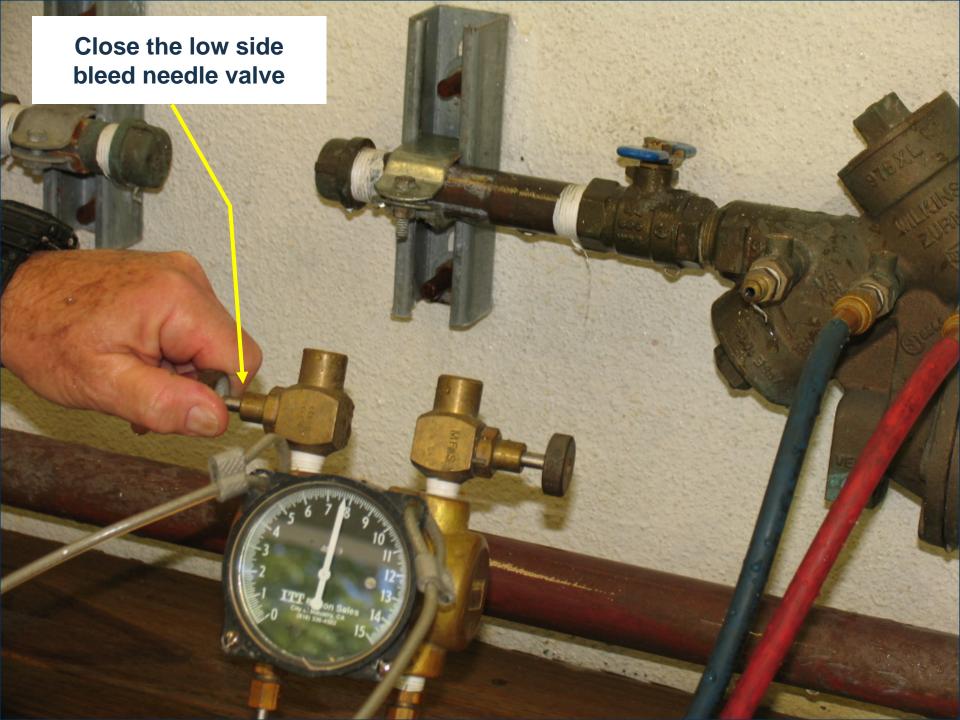




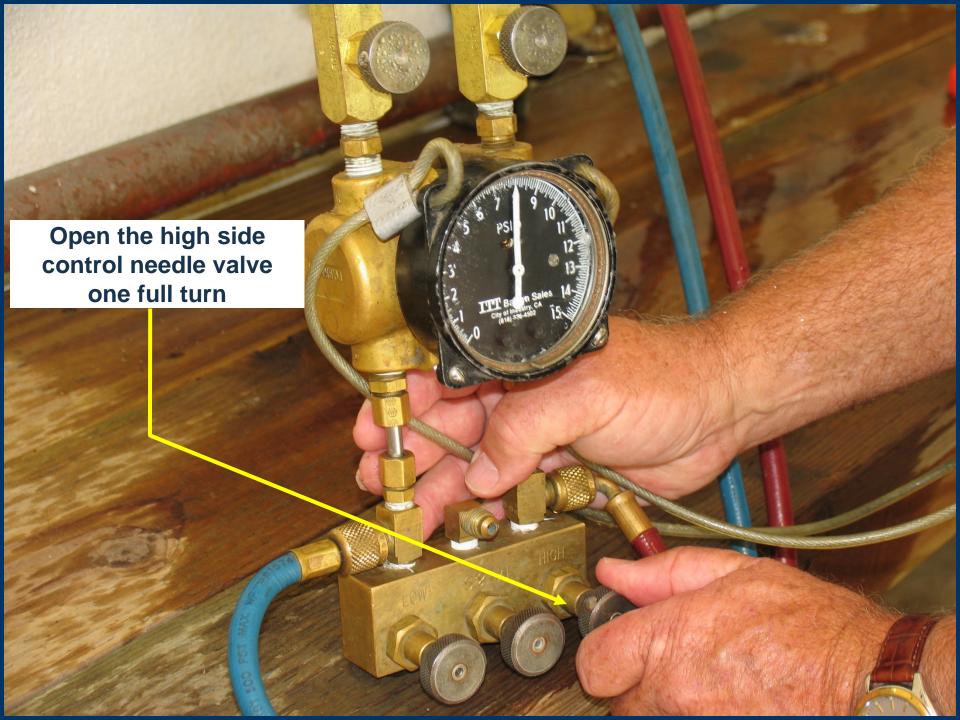


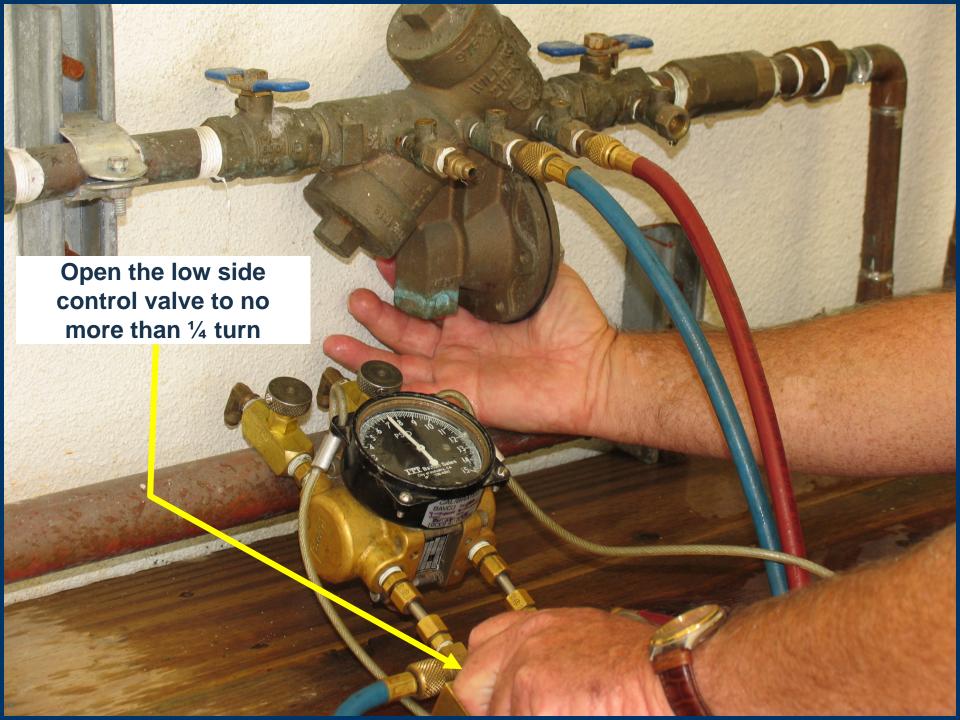




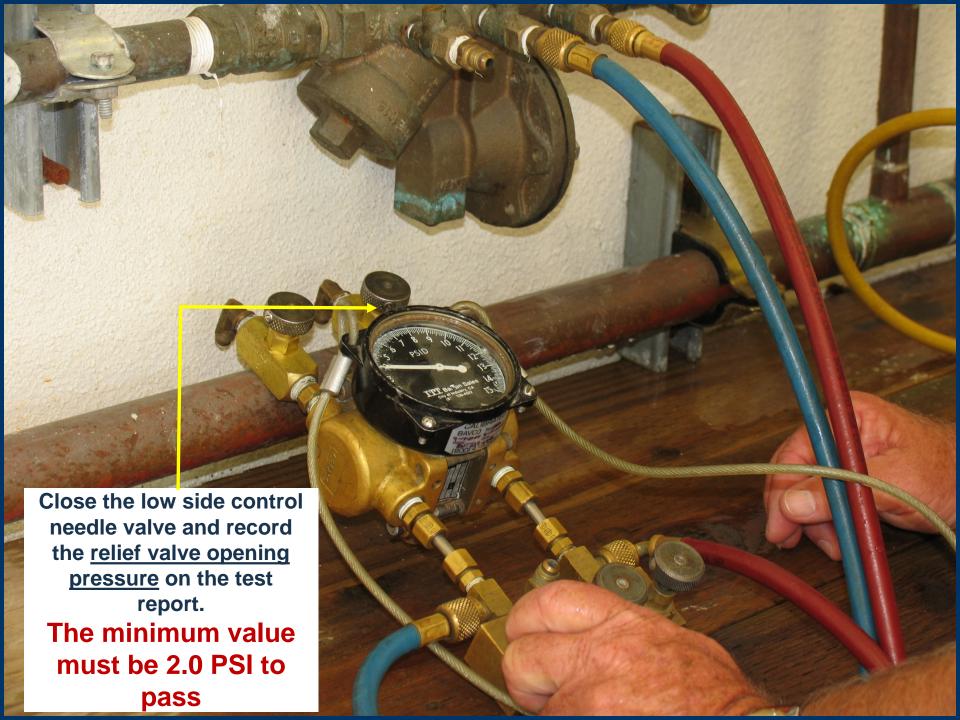


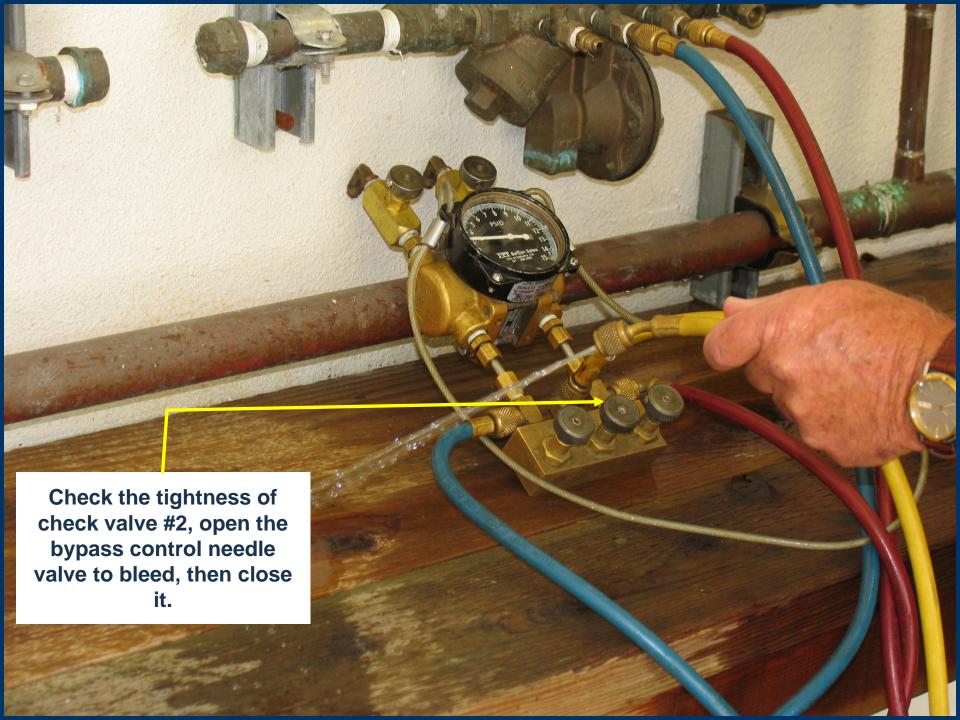


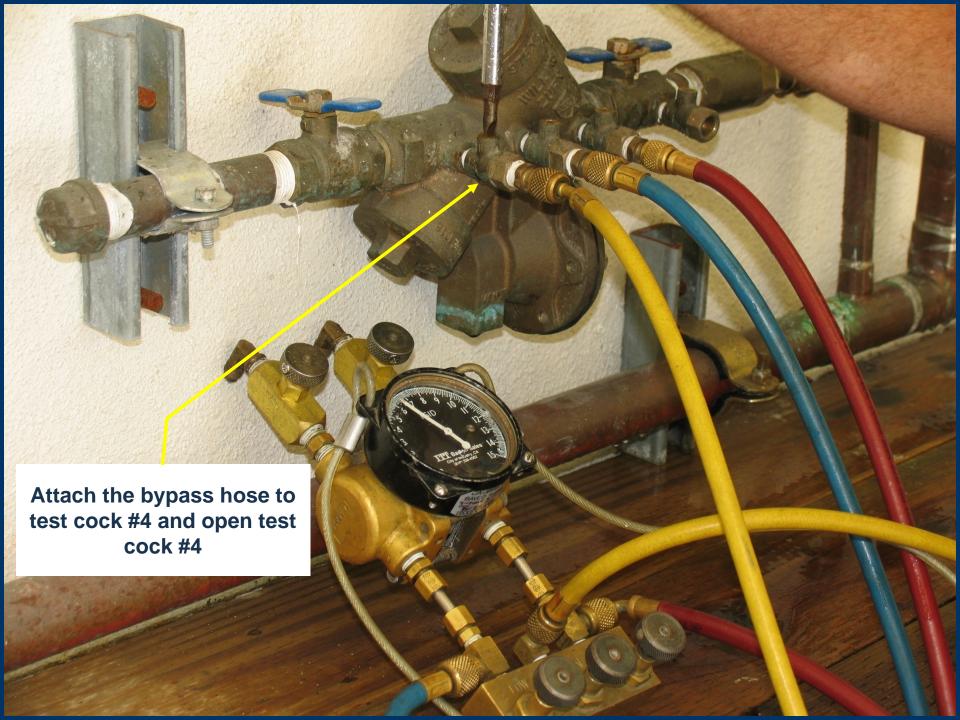


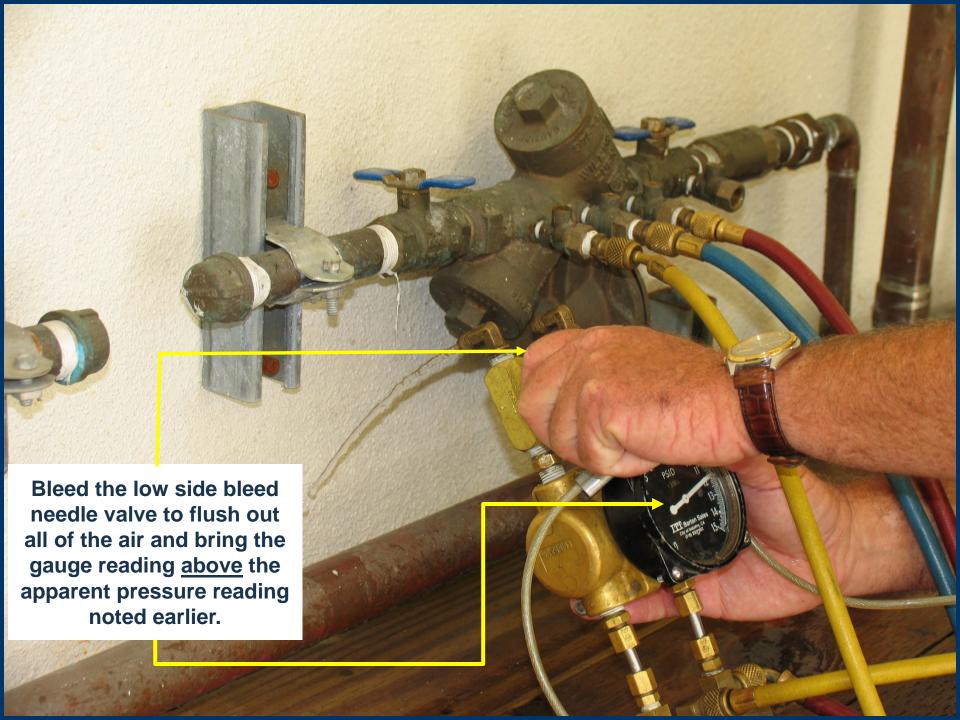


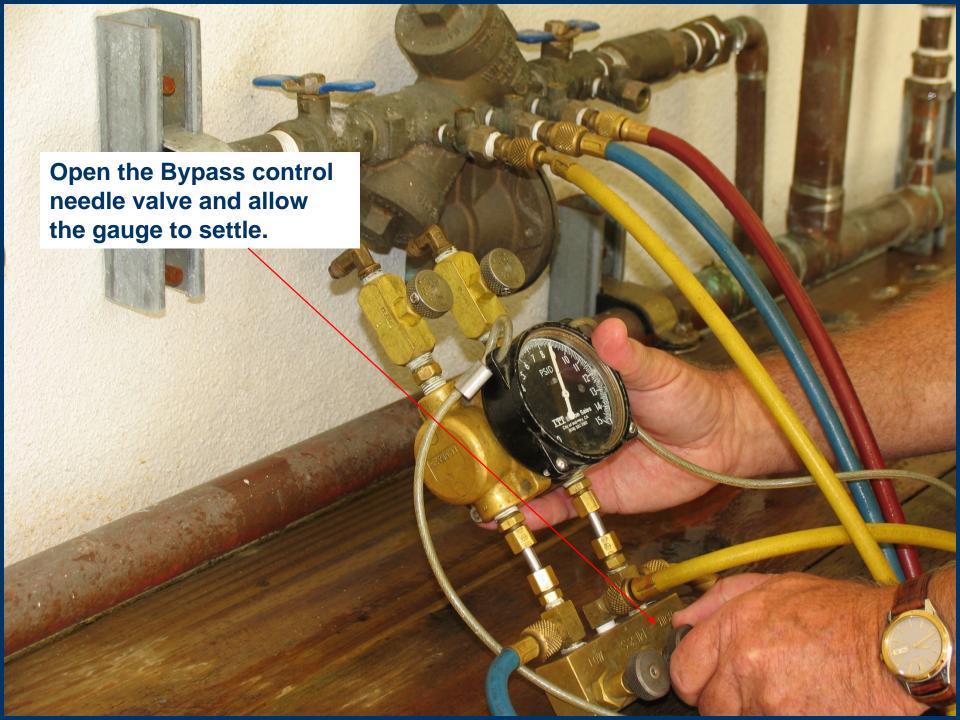


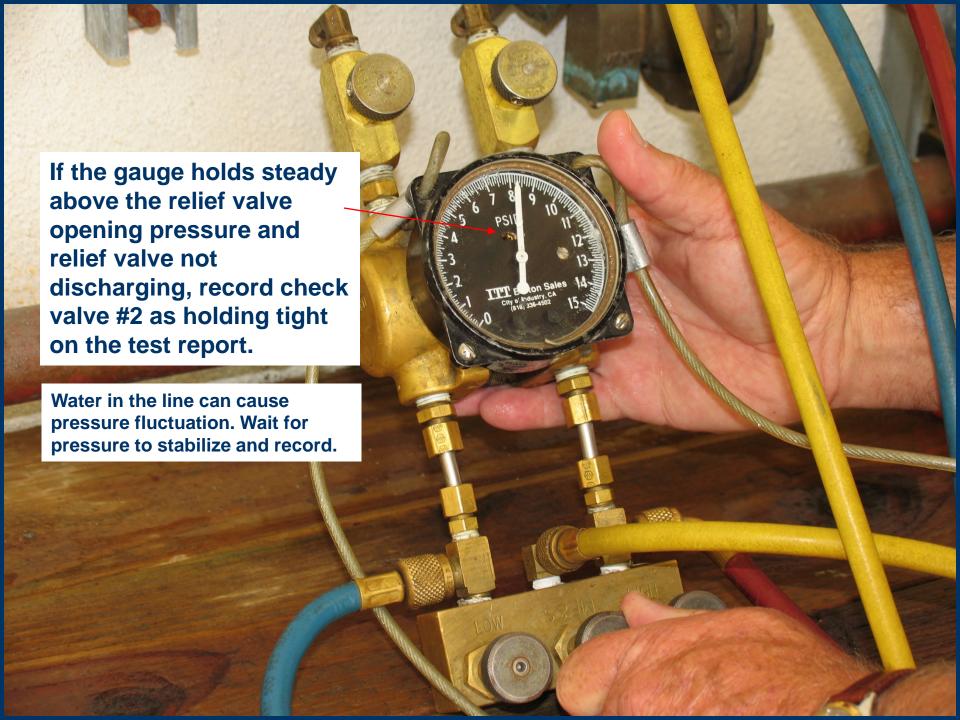


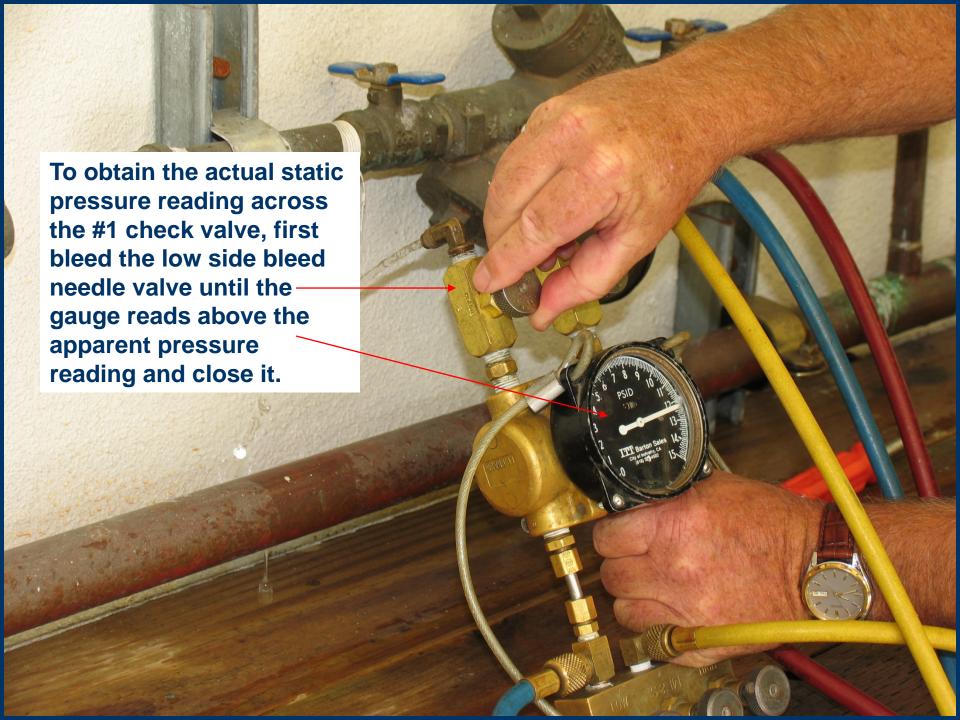


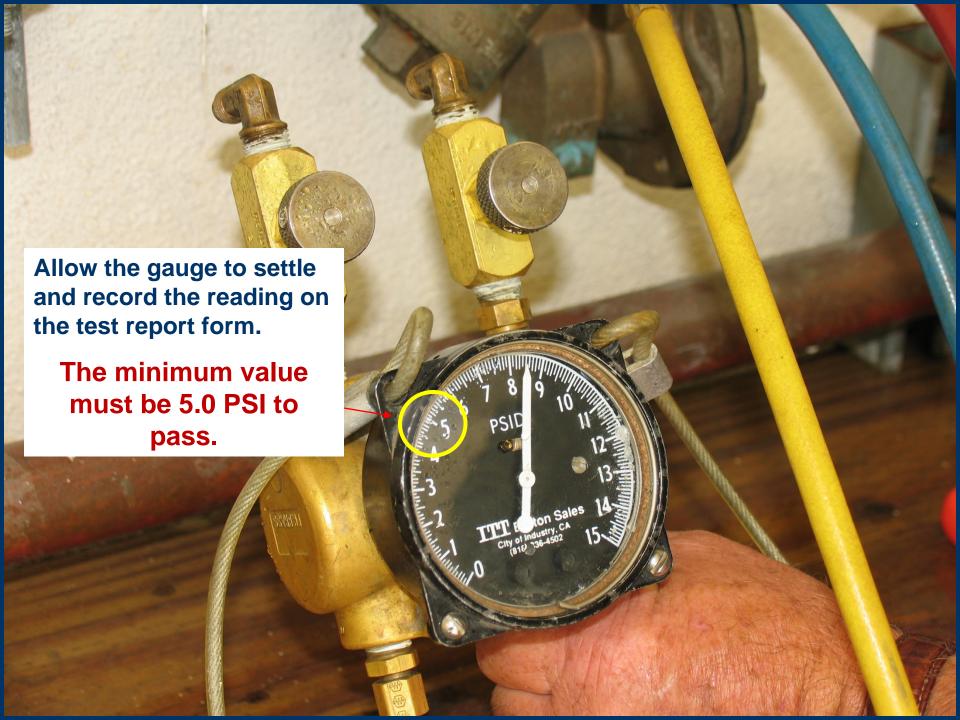






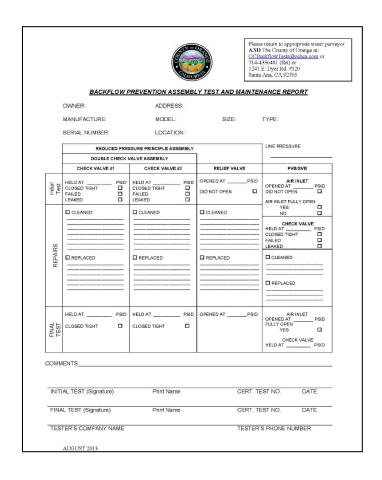






Final Steps:

- 1. Disconnect all the hoses from the device
- 2. Restore water to the customer (or leave how the shut-off valves were initially found)
- 3. Fill out the test form correctly and completely
- Submit the form to the water purveyor AND OCHCA

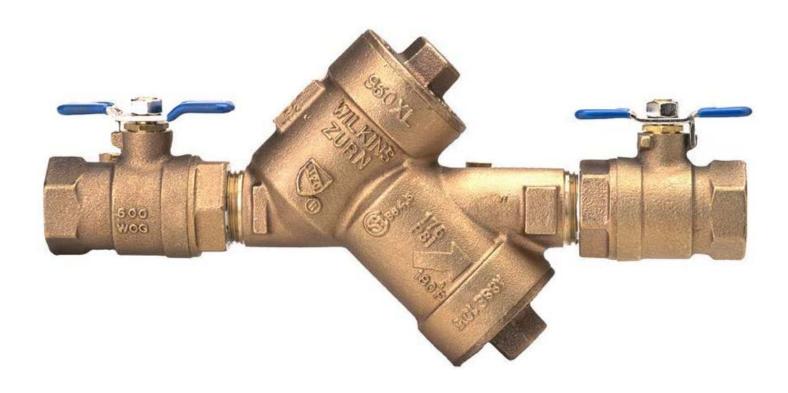




Troubleshooting:

Remember to be alert for disk compression and try for the 2nd chance before you indicate that the #1 check is leaking!







Equipment required:

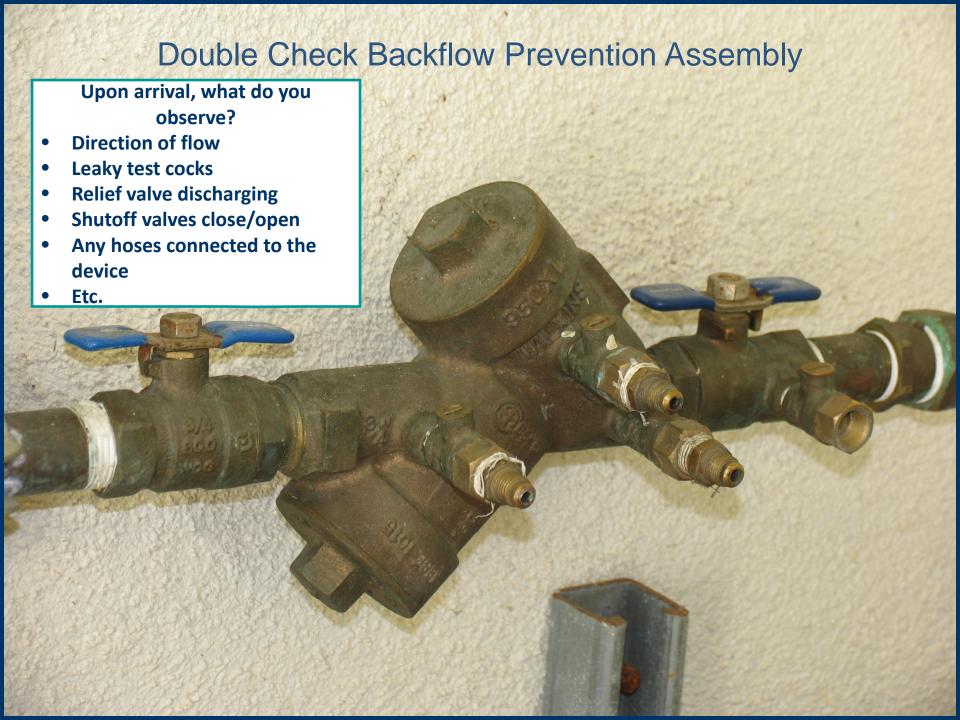
- Approved Differential Pressure Gauge
- 1 high pressure hose (1/4"D x 6 ft long)
- Adapter fittings for each size test cock
- Sight tube (if needed)
- Bleed-off valve



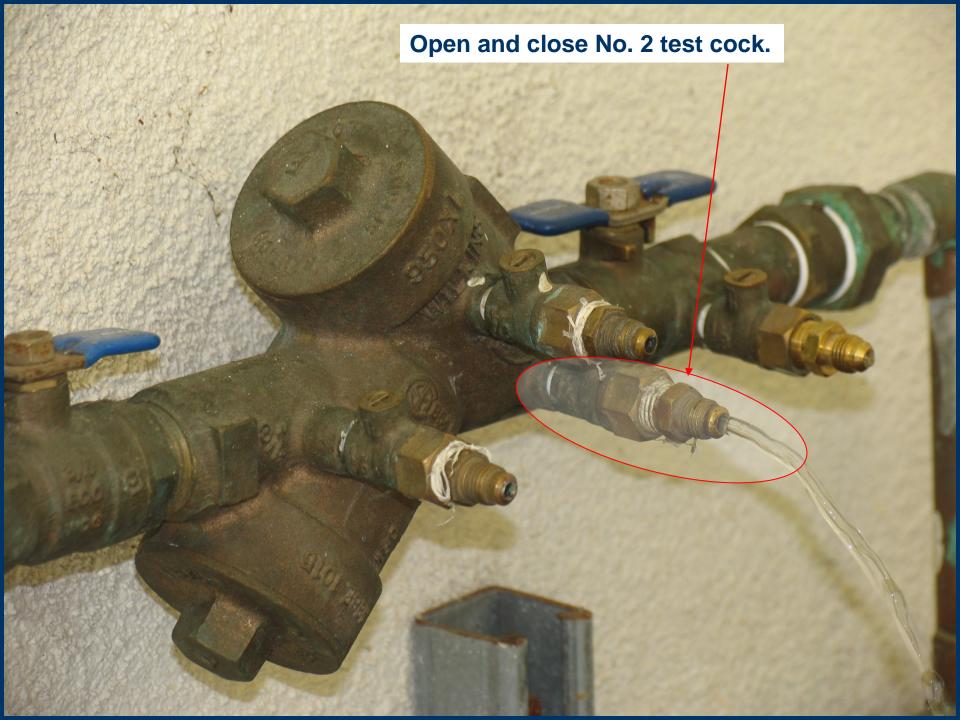
Preliminary Steps

- Notify
- Identify
- Inspect
- Observe

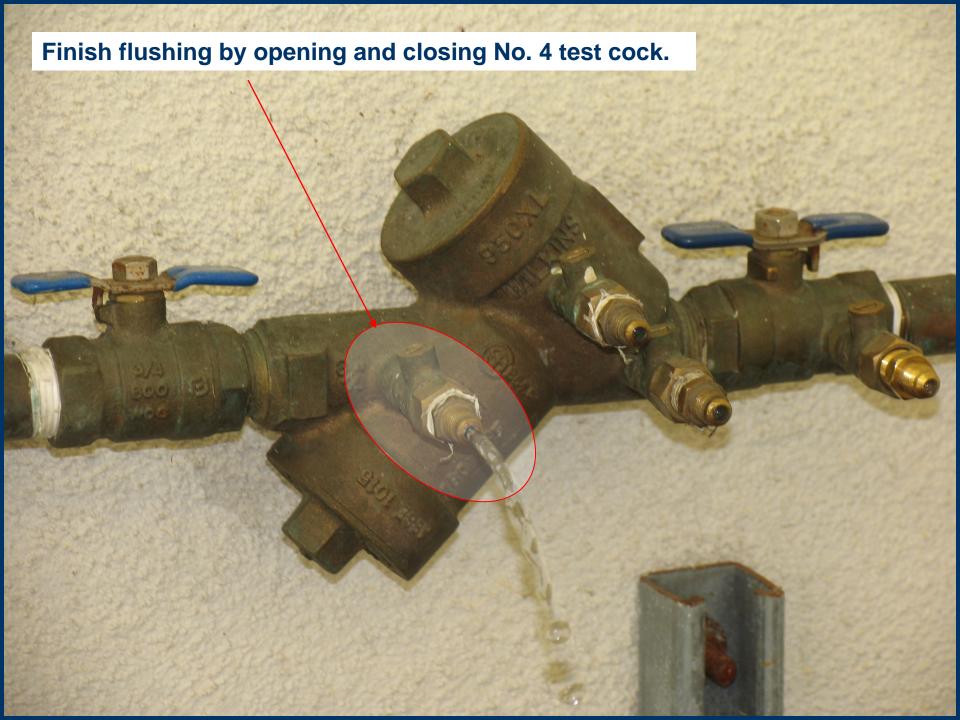




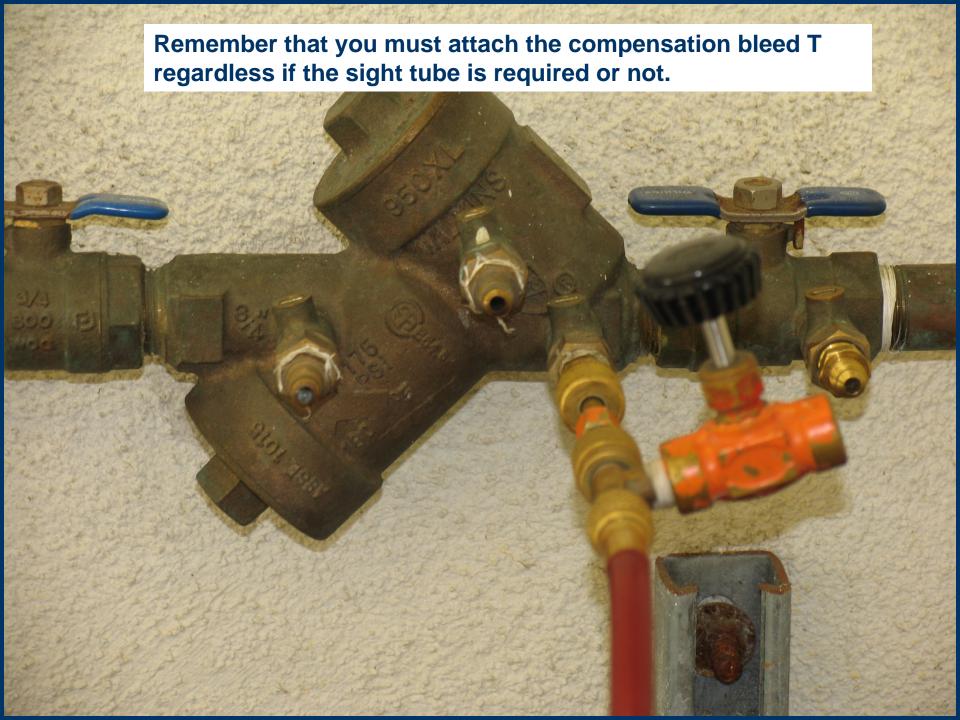


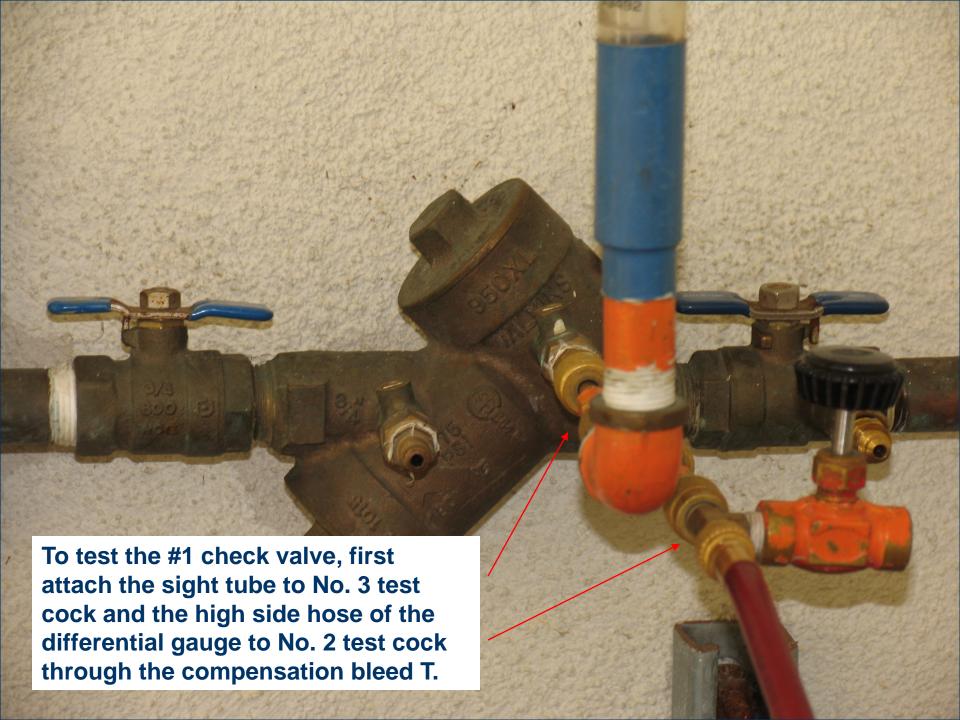






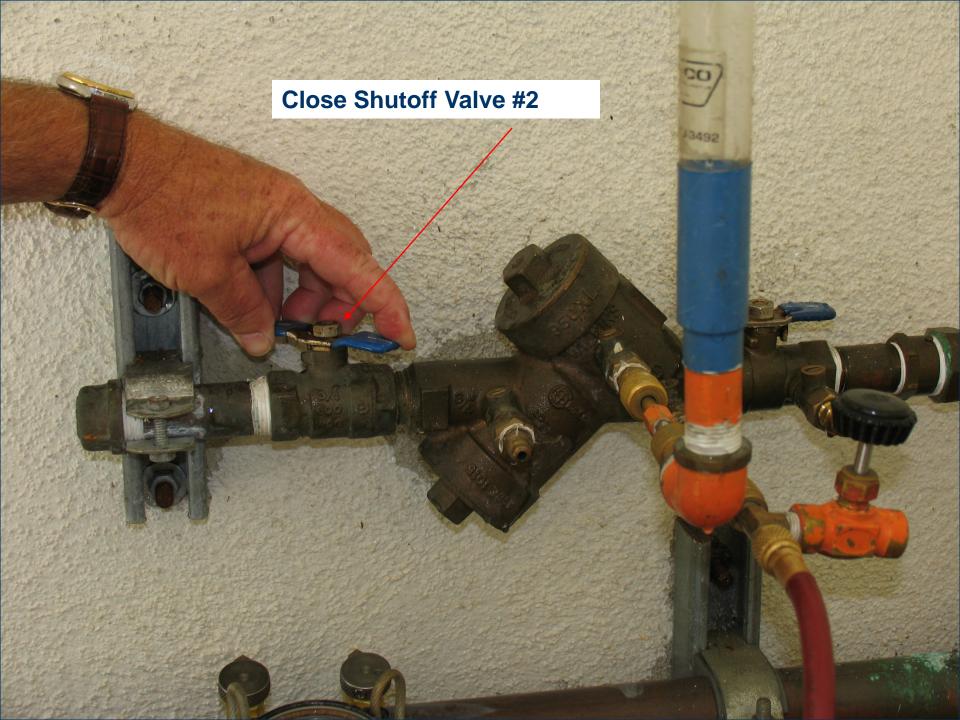


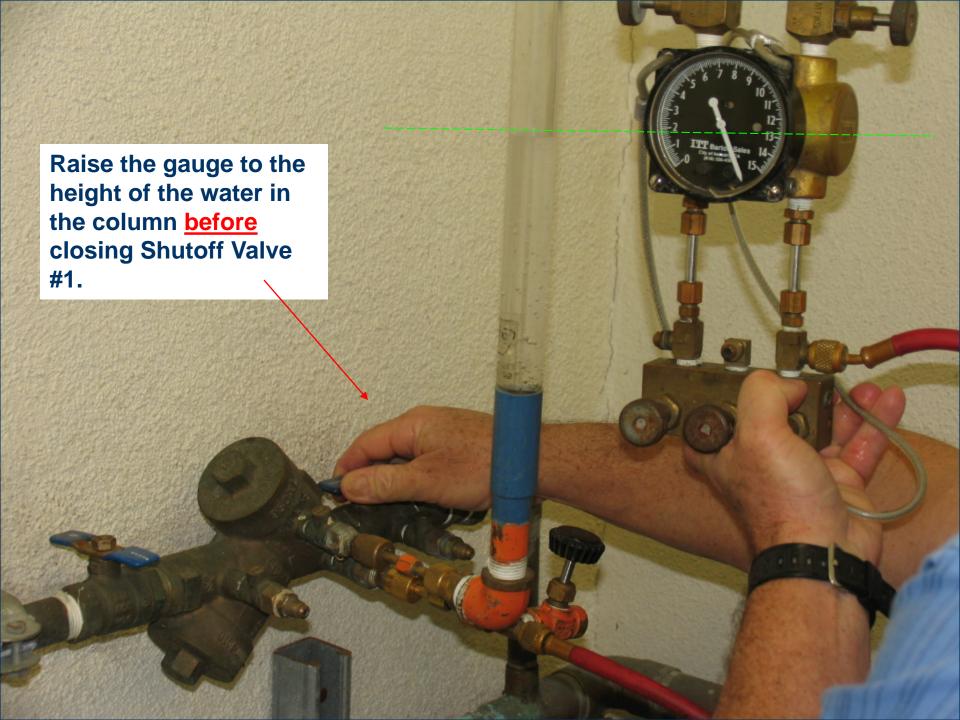


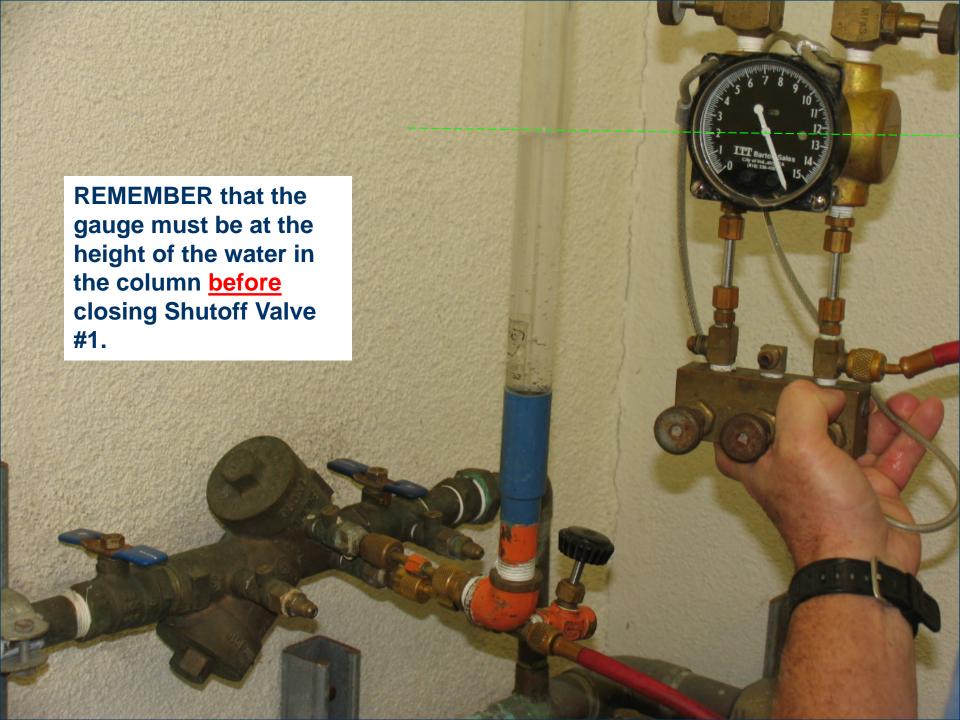




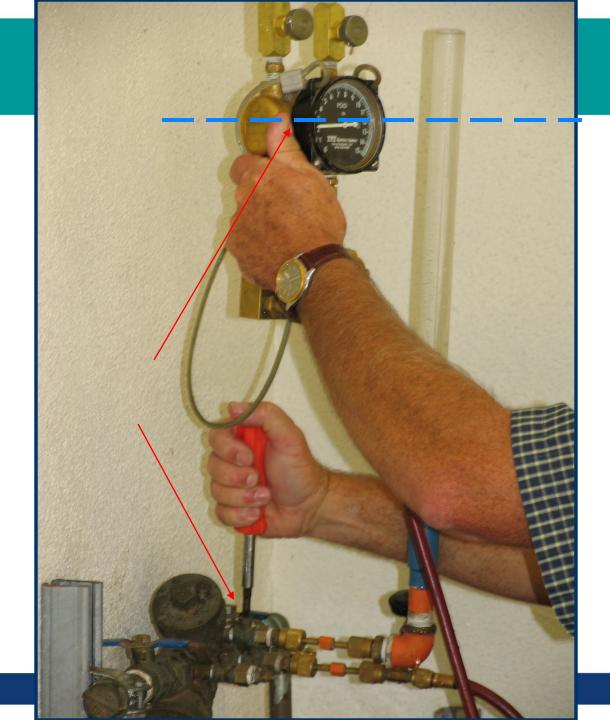






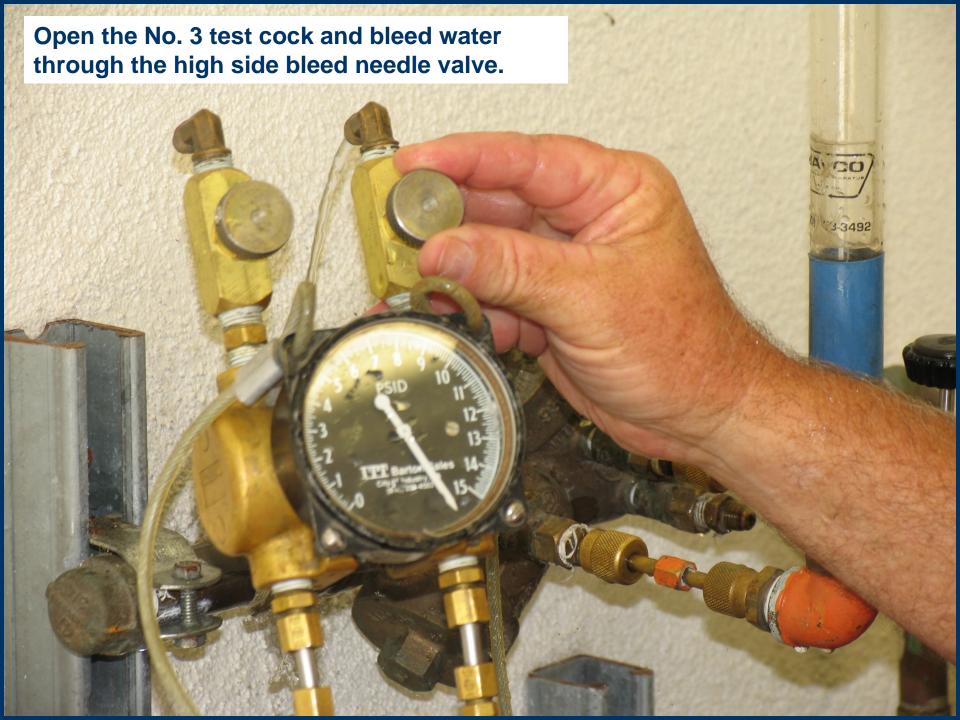


Making sure your gauge is at the highest point of water, open No. 3 test cock and record the gauge reading after it settles. The check valve must hold at 1.0 PSI or greater to pass.

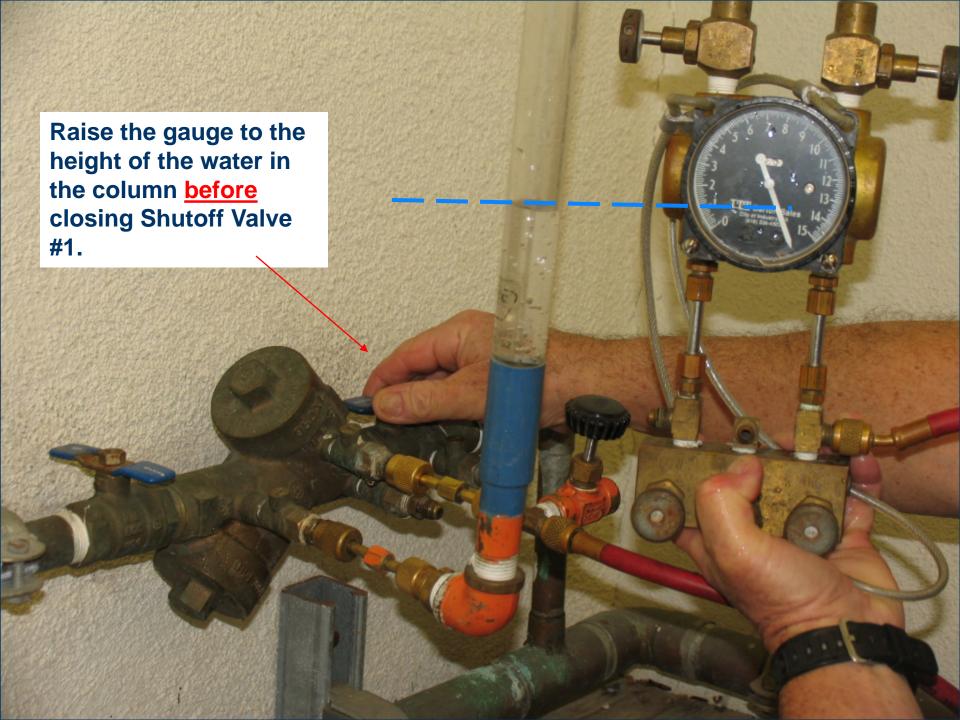


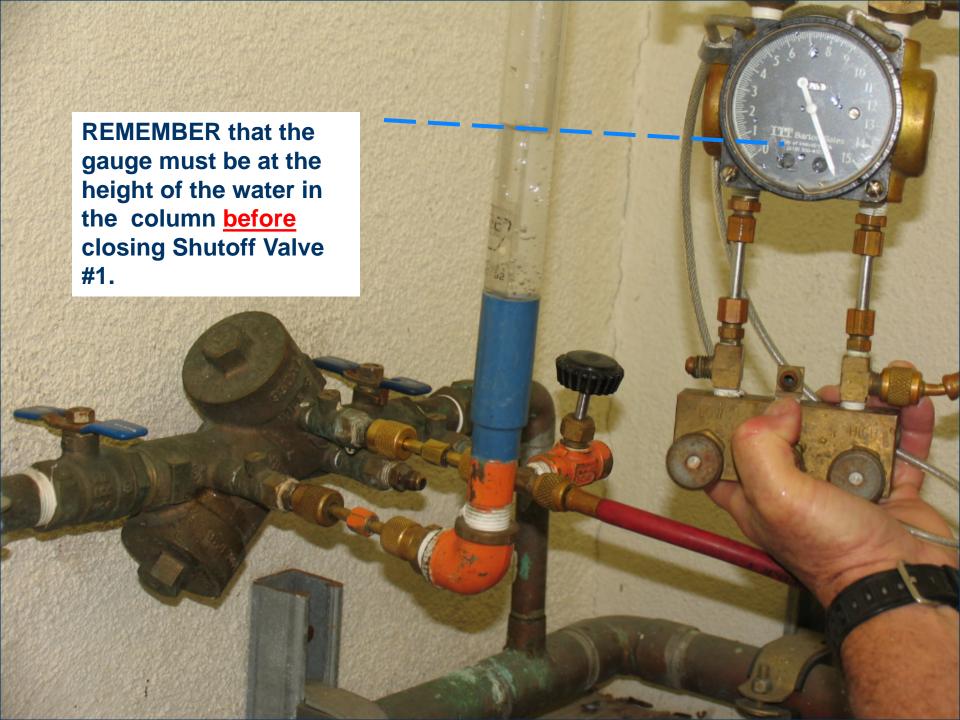
Close No. 2 and No. 3 test cocks, open Shutoff Valve #1 and move your test setup over so that the sight tube is on No. 4 test cock and the high side hose and compensation bleed T are on No. 3 test cock.



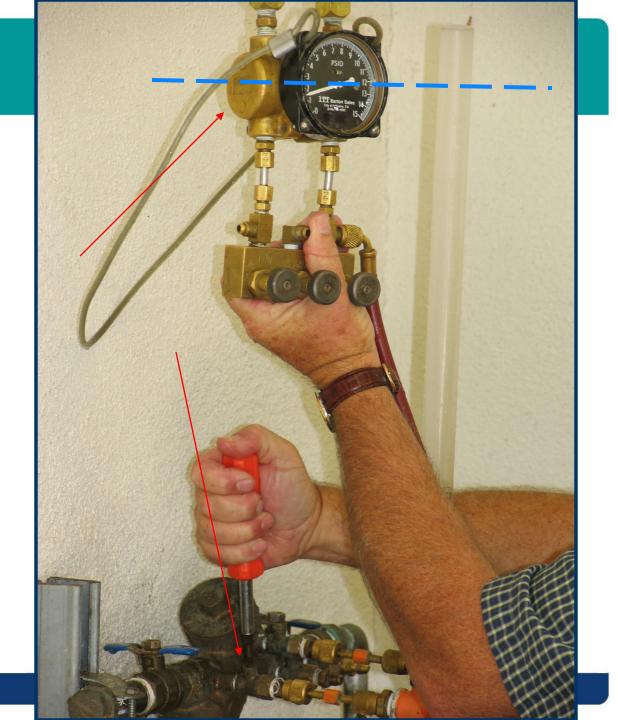






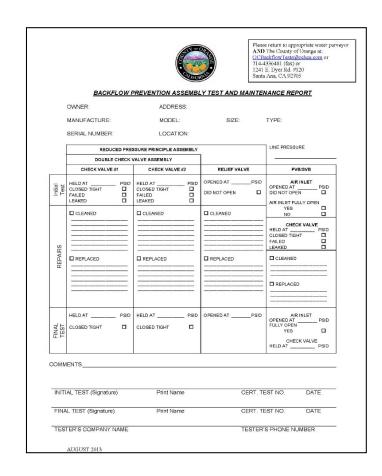


Making sure your gauge is at the highest point of water, open No. 4 test cock and record the gauge reading after it stabilizes. The check valve must hold at 1.0 PSI or greater to pass.



Final Steps:

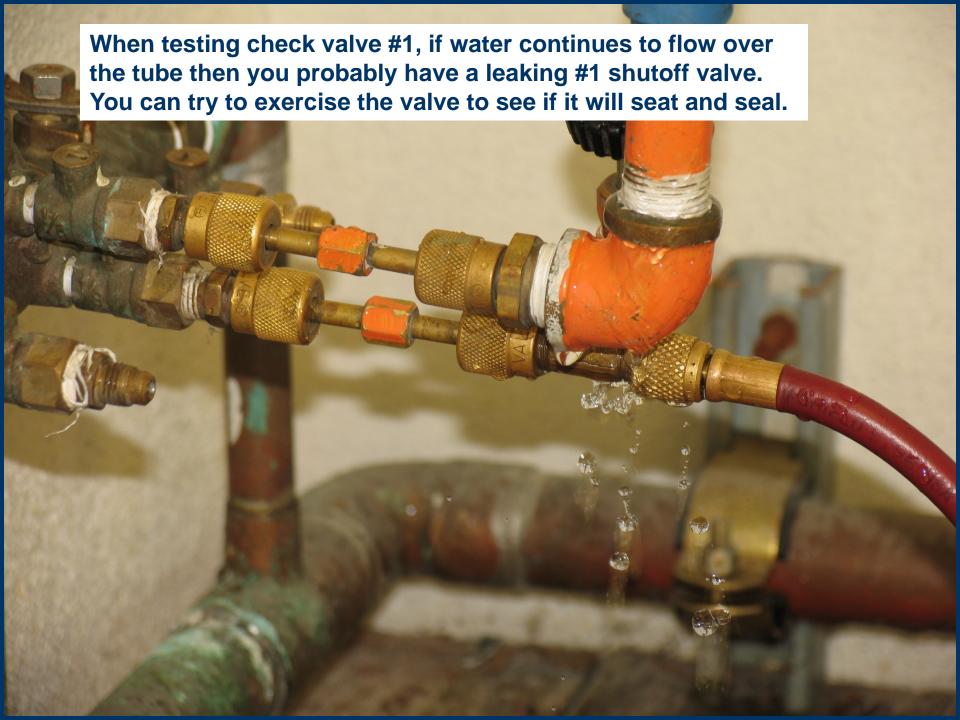
- 1. Disconnect all the hoses from the device
- 2. Restore water to the customer (or leave how the shut-off valves were initially found)
- 3. Fill out the test form correctly and completely
- Submit the form to the water purveyor AND OCHCA

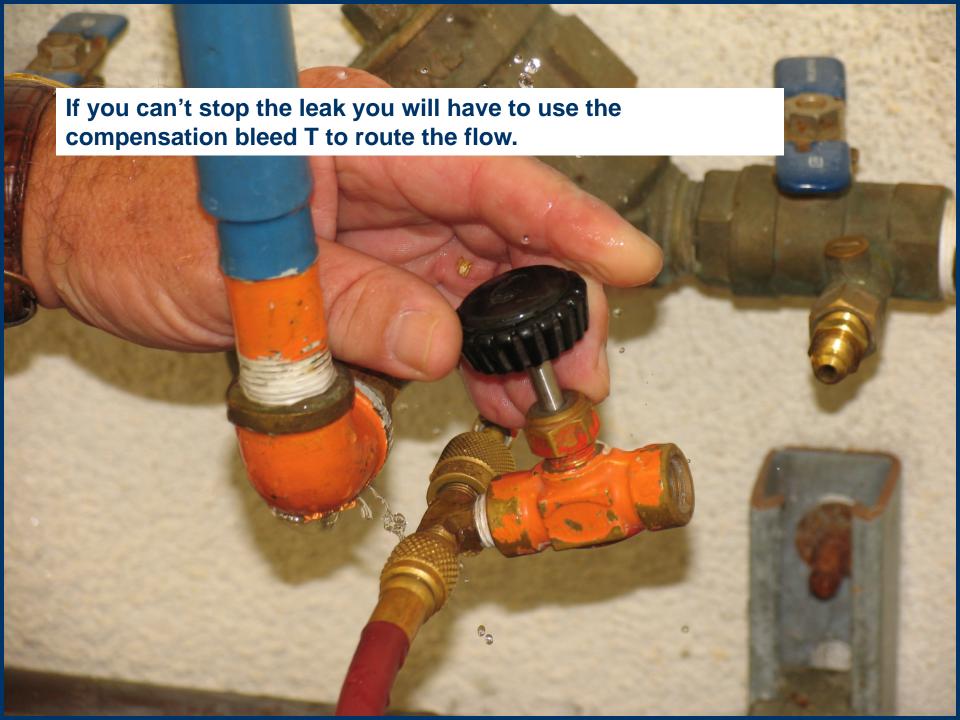


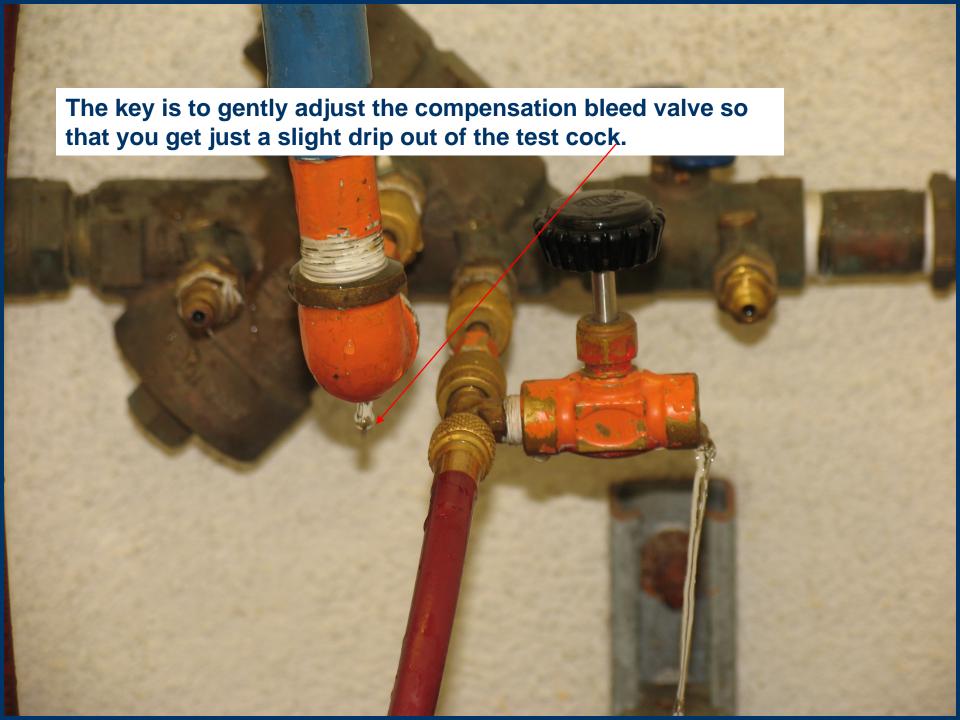


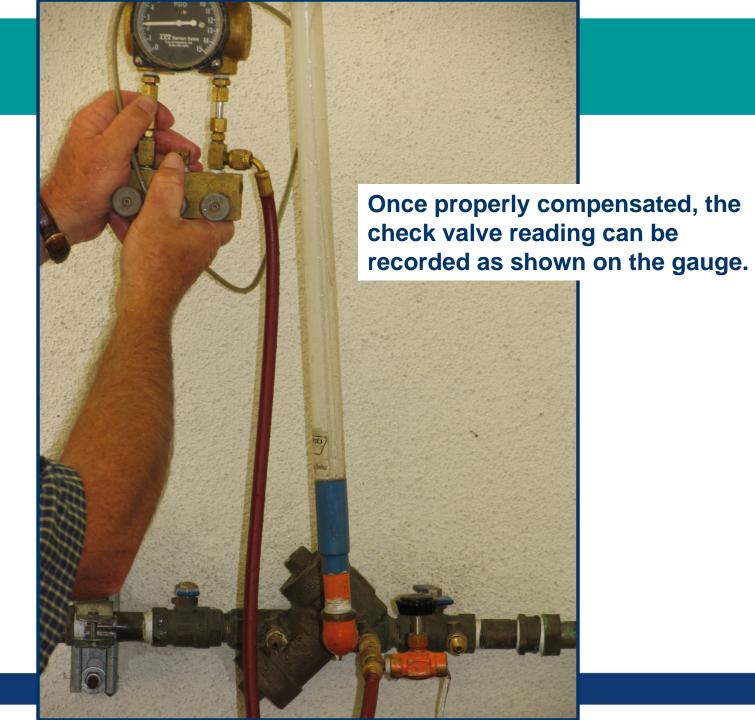
Trouble Shooting the DC















Equipment required:

- Approved Differential Pressure Gauge
- 1 high pressure hose (1/4"D x 6 ft long)
- Adapter fittings for each size test cock
- Bleed-off valve



Preliminary Steps

- Notify
- Identify
- Inspect
- Observe



Spill-resistant PVB with the canopy installed.

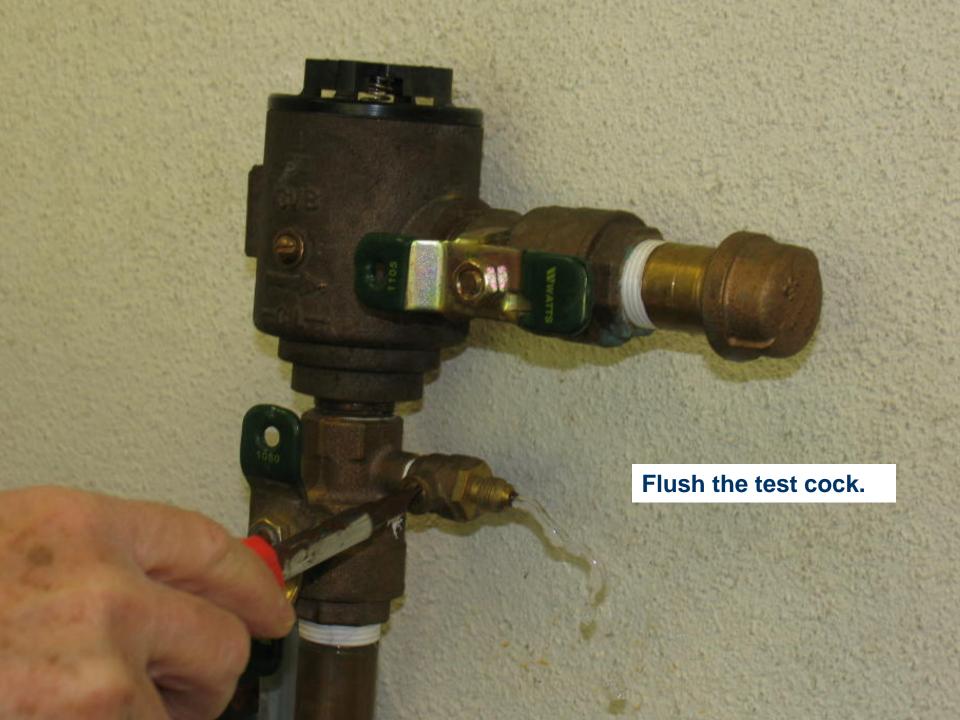
Upon arrival, what do you observe?

- Missing canopy
- Direction of flow
- Leaky test cocks
- Relief valve discharging
- Shutoff valves close/open
- Any hoses connected to the device
- Etc.

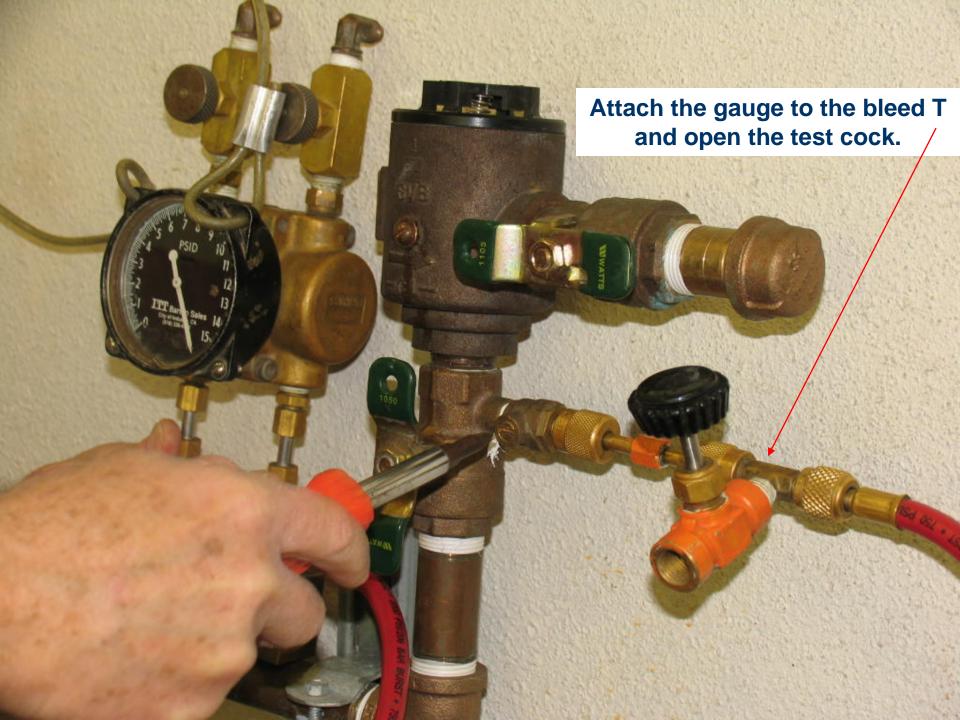


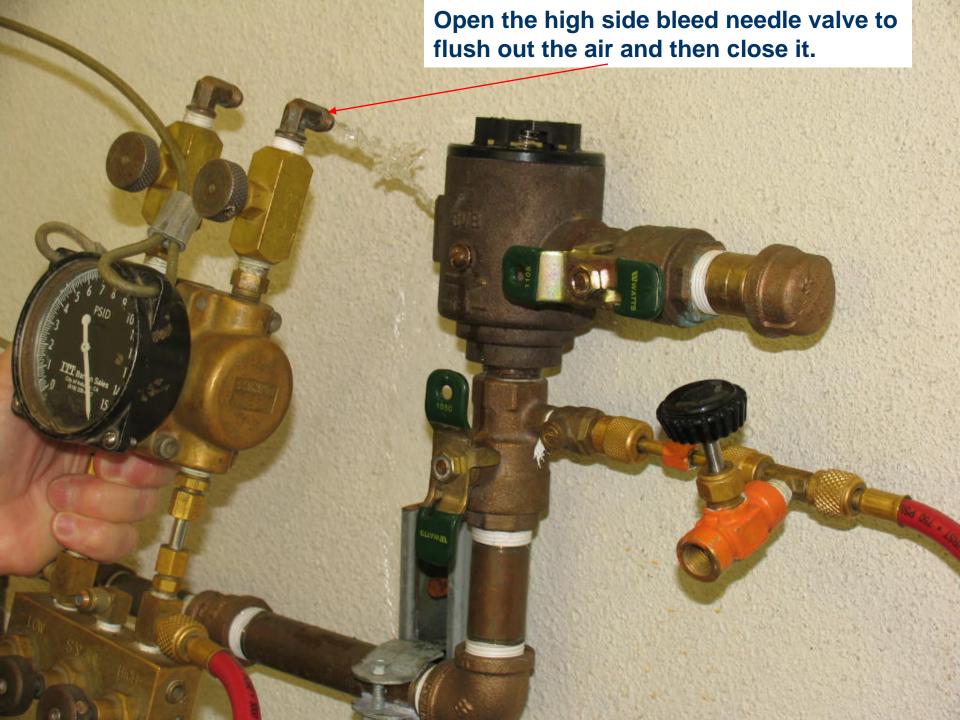
Remove the canopy from the top of the device.

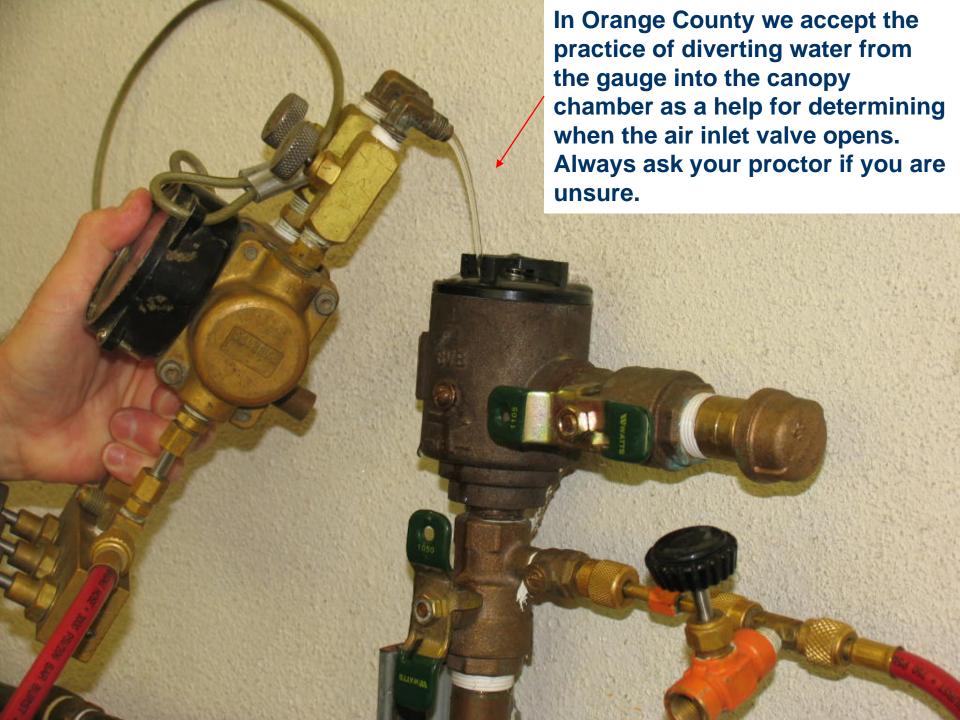


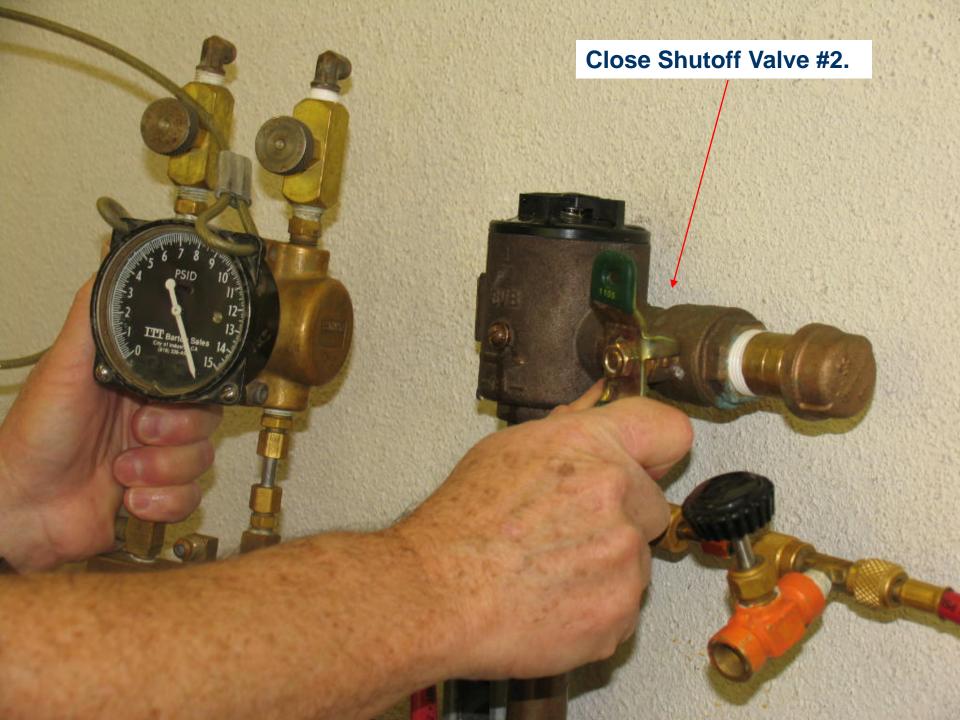


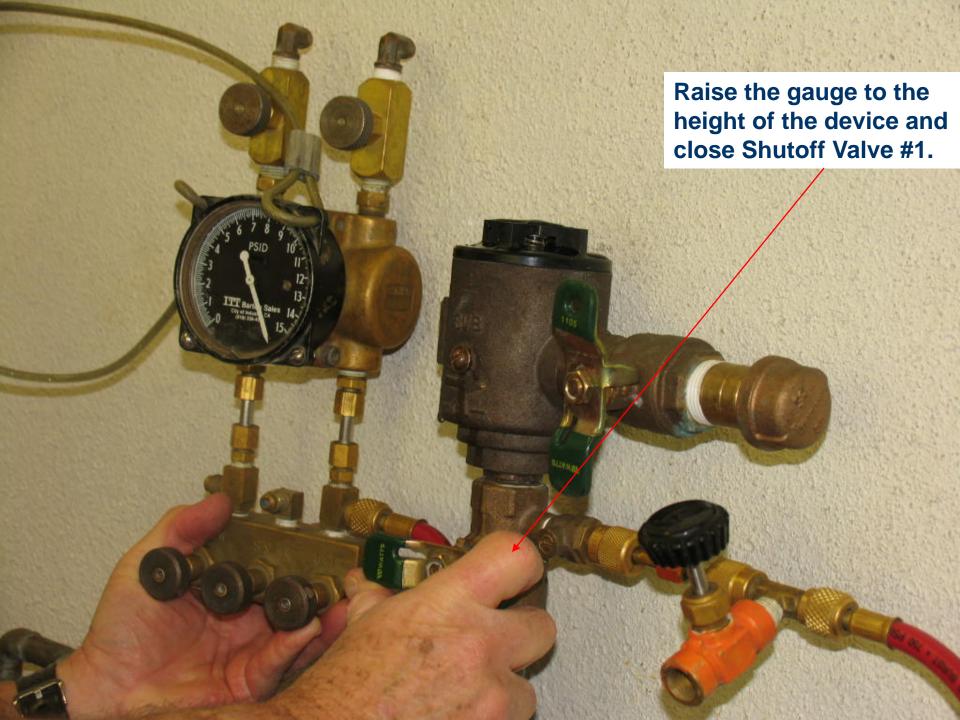








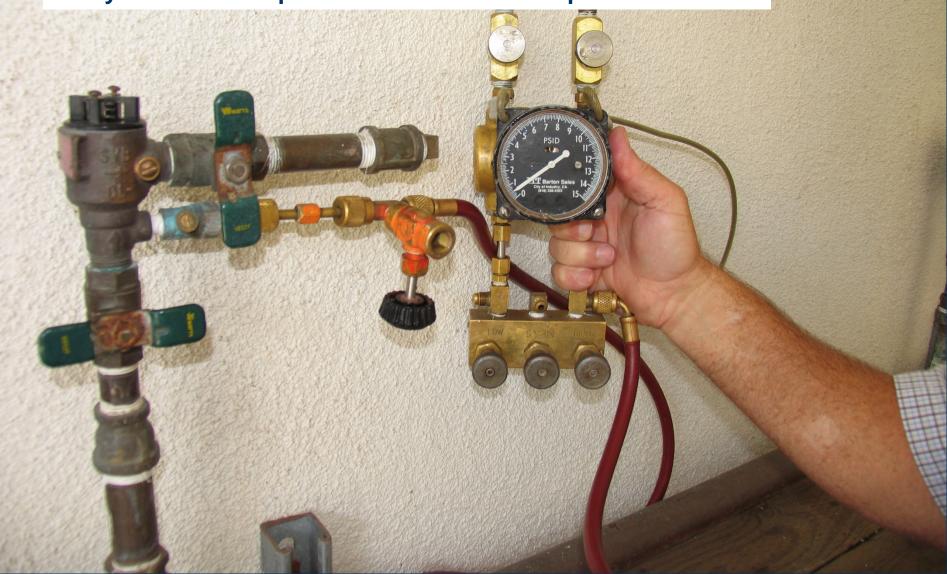


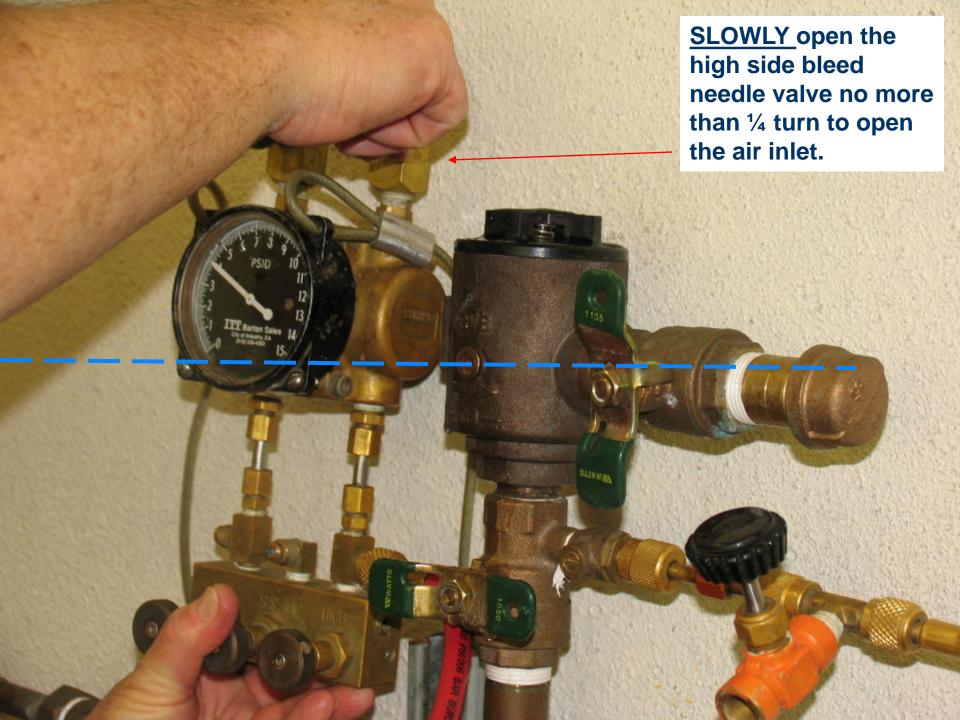


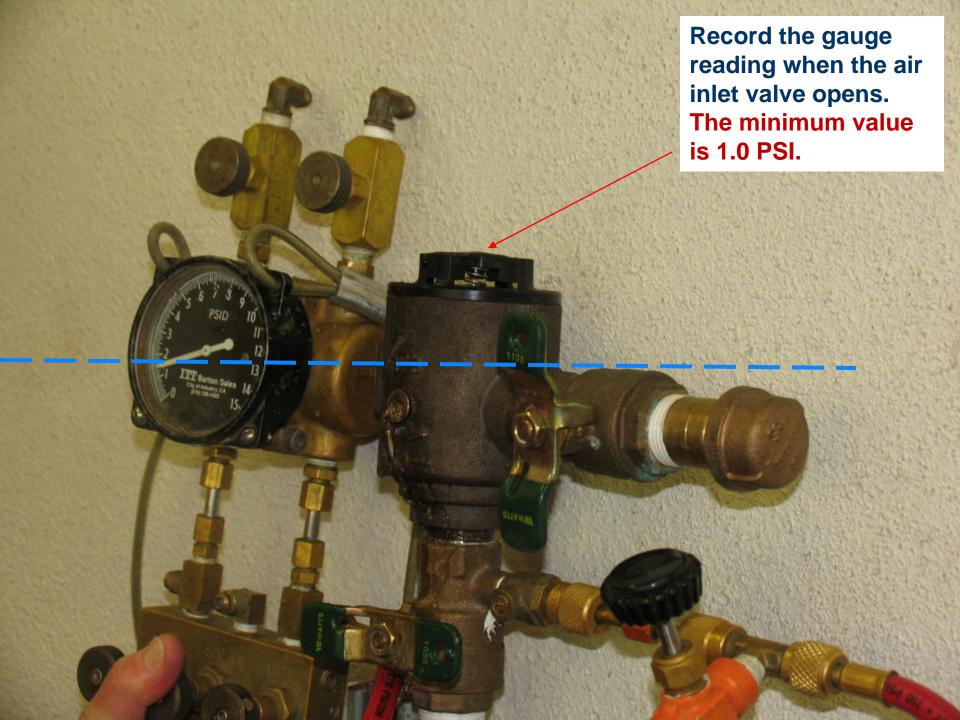














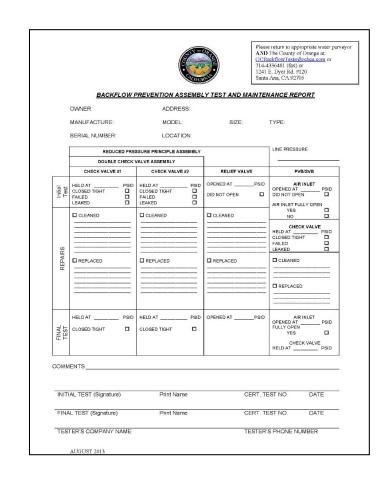




Backflow Testing Review: SVB

Final Steps:

- Restore water to the customer (or leave how the shut-off valves were initially found)
- 2. Fill out the test form correctly and completely
- Submit the form to the water purveyor AND OCHCA





Backflow Testing Review: PVB





Backflow Testing Review: PVB

Equipment required:

- Approved Differential Pressure Gauge
- 1 high pressure hose (1/4"D x 6 ft long)
- Adapter fittings for each size test cock
- Bleed-off valve



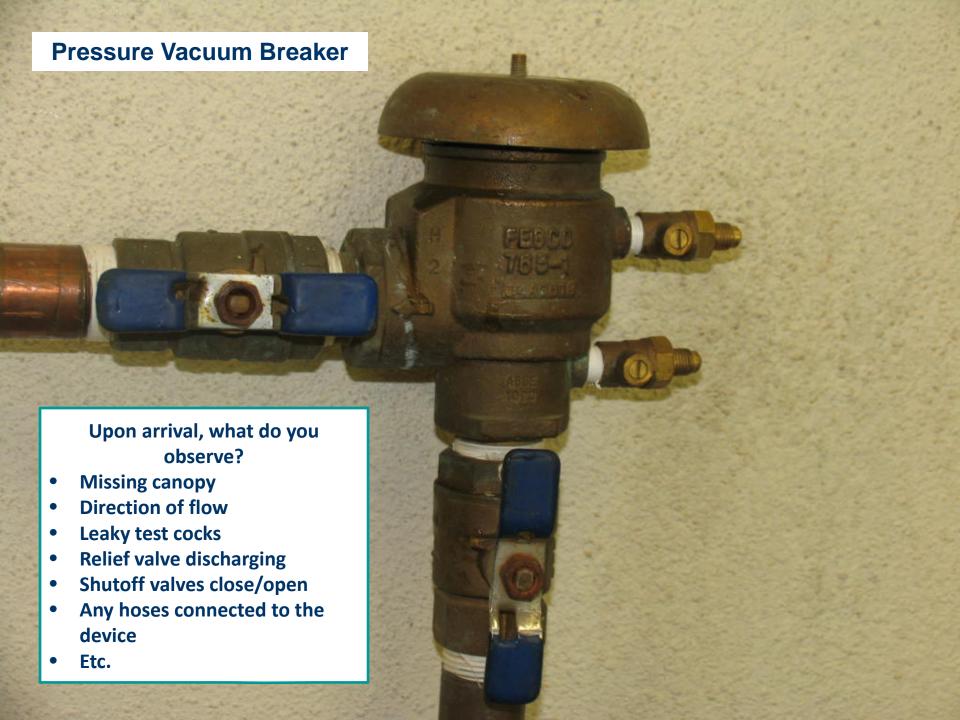
Backflow Testing Review: PVB

Preliminary Steps

- Notify
- Identify
- Inspect
- Observe



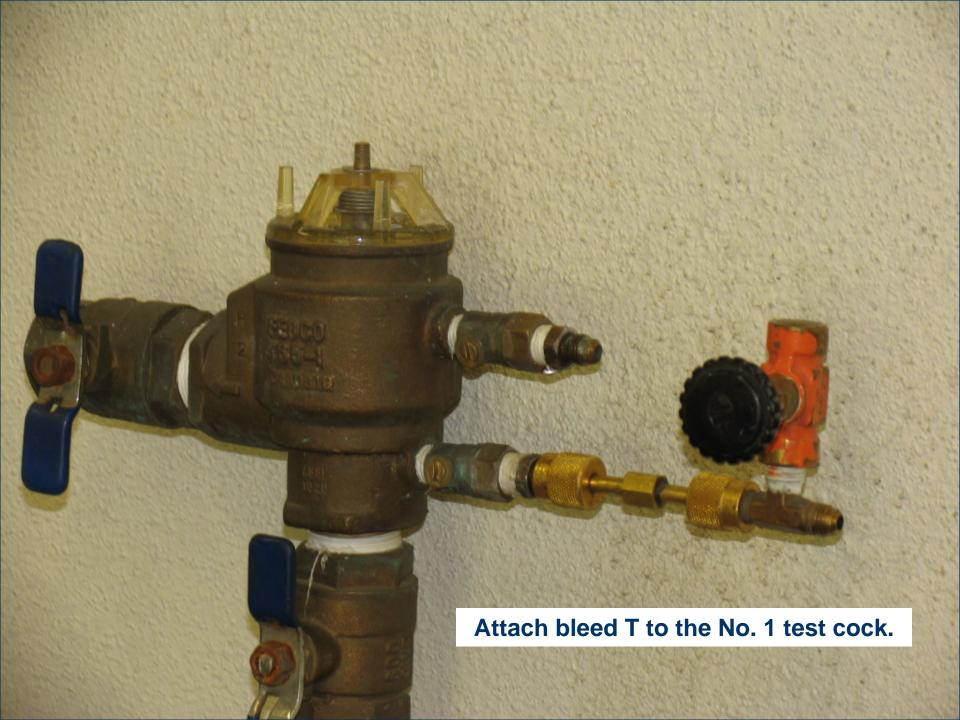


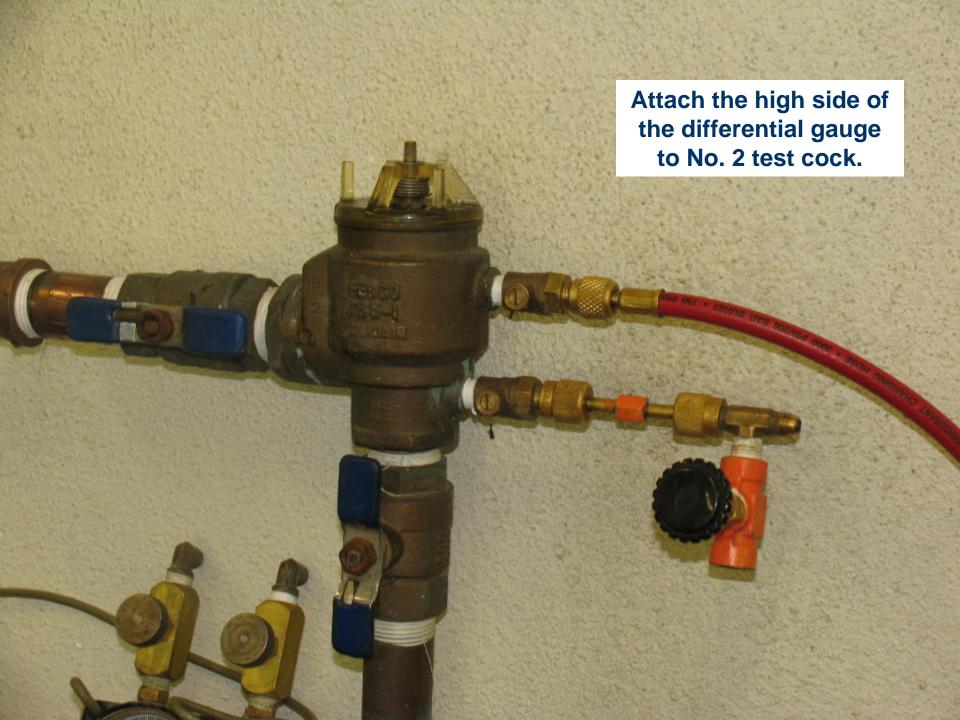




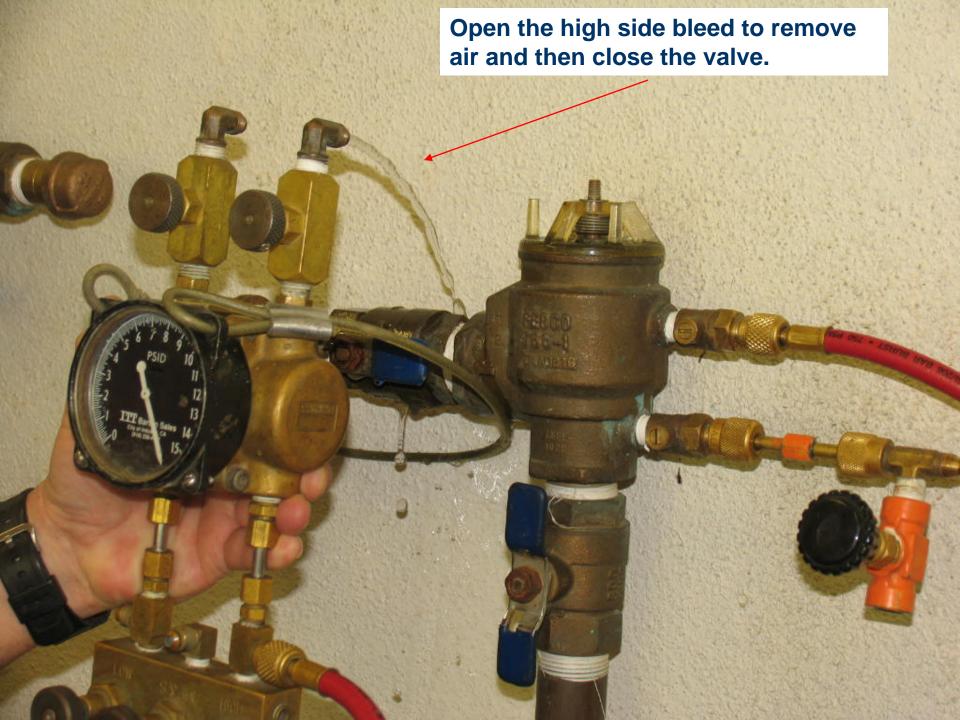


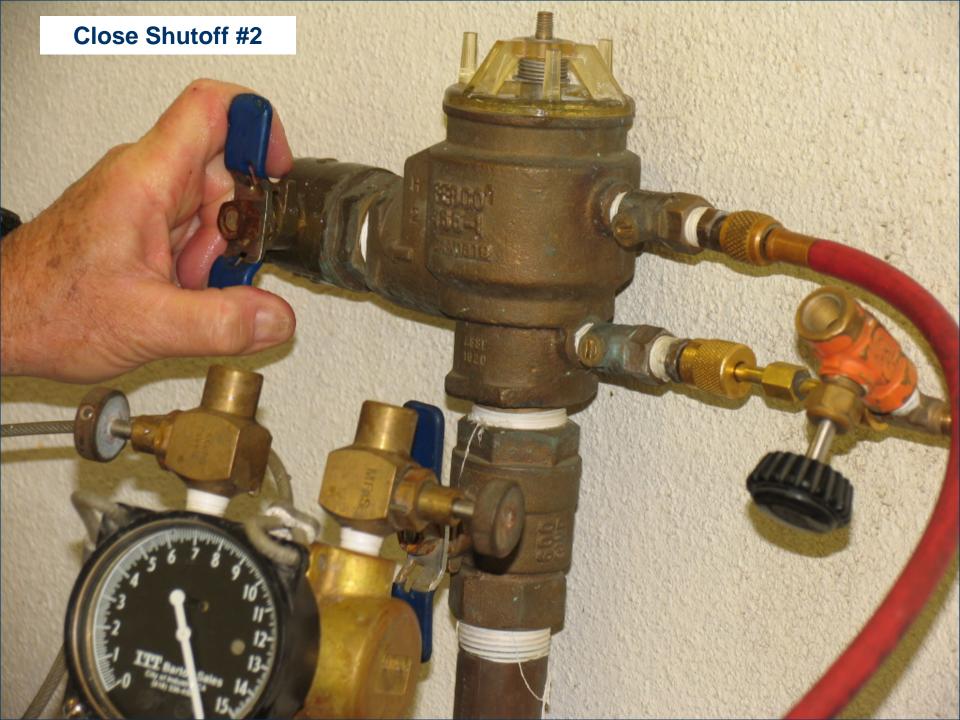


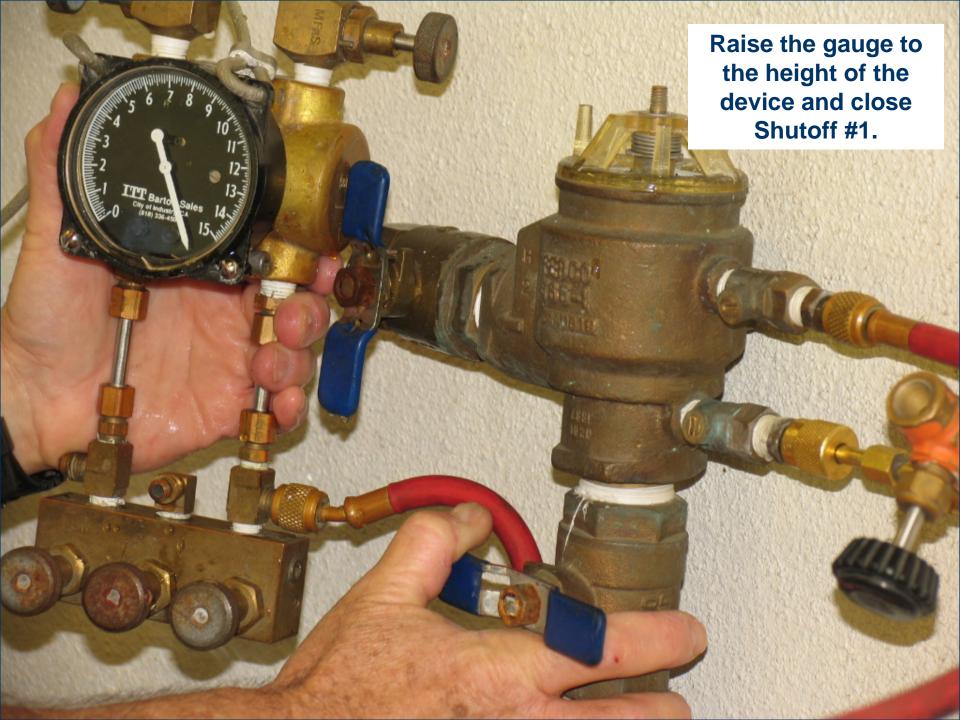




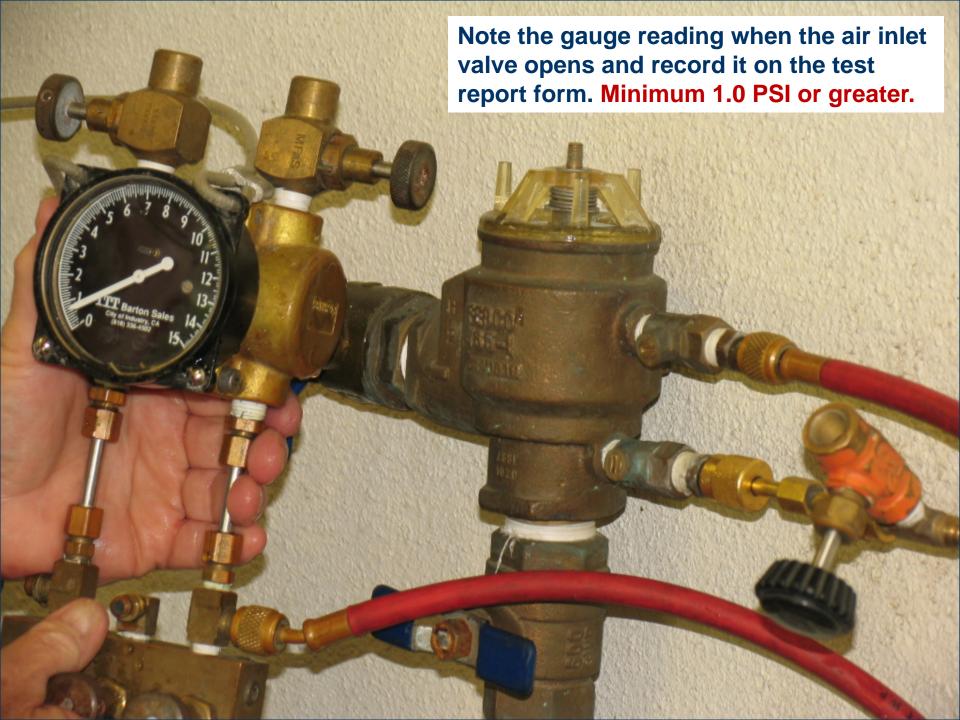








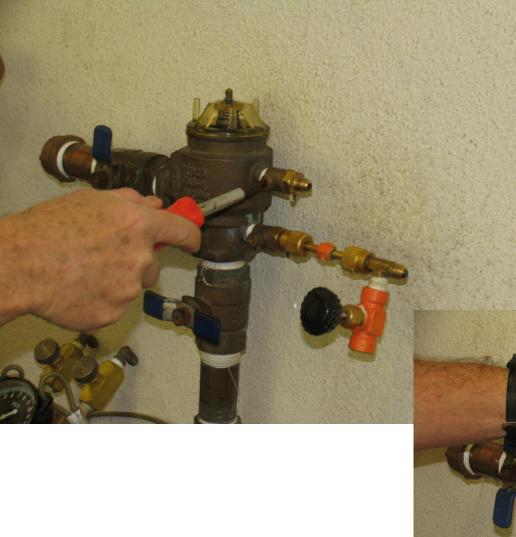












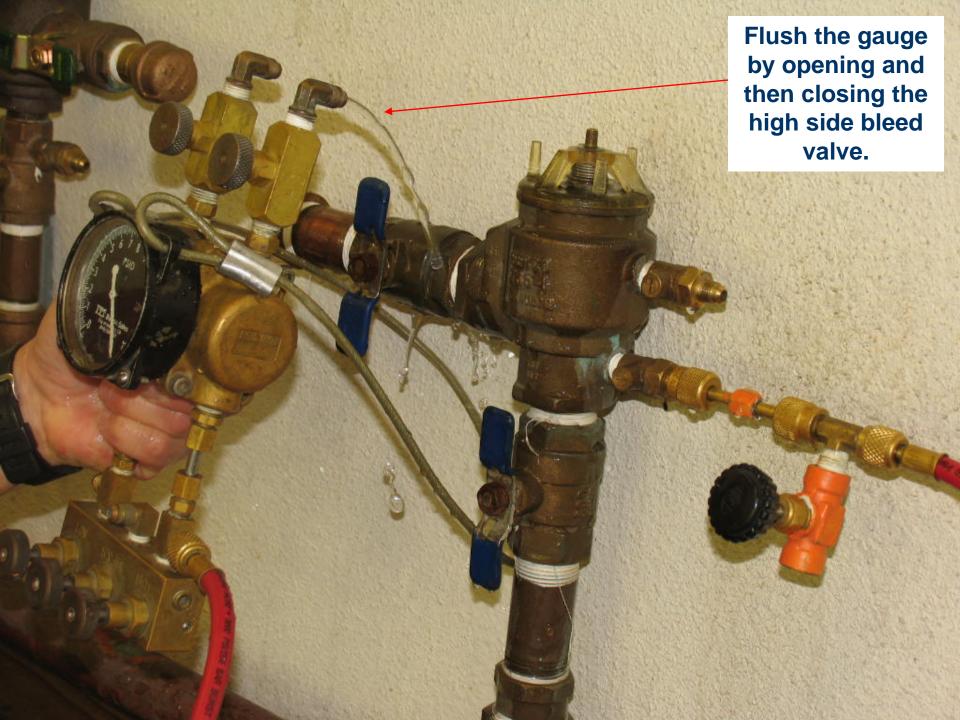
Close the No. 2 test cock and turn on Shutoff Valve #1 to pressurize the device.

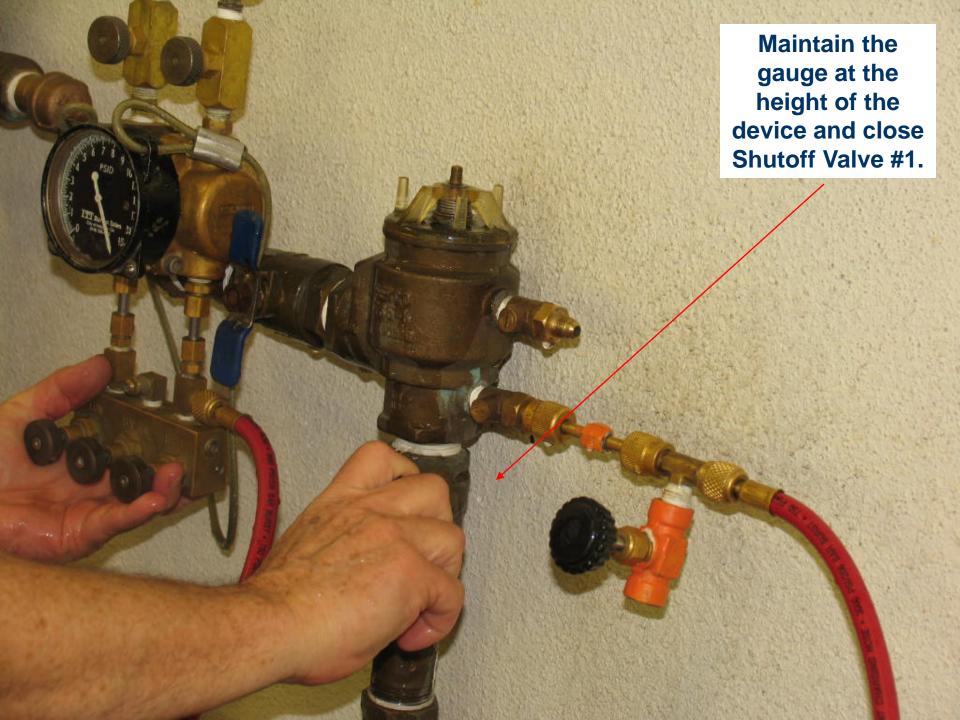




Connect the gauge to No.

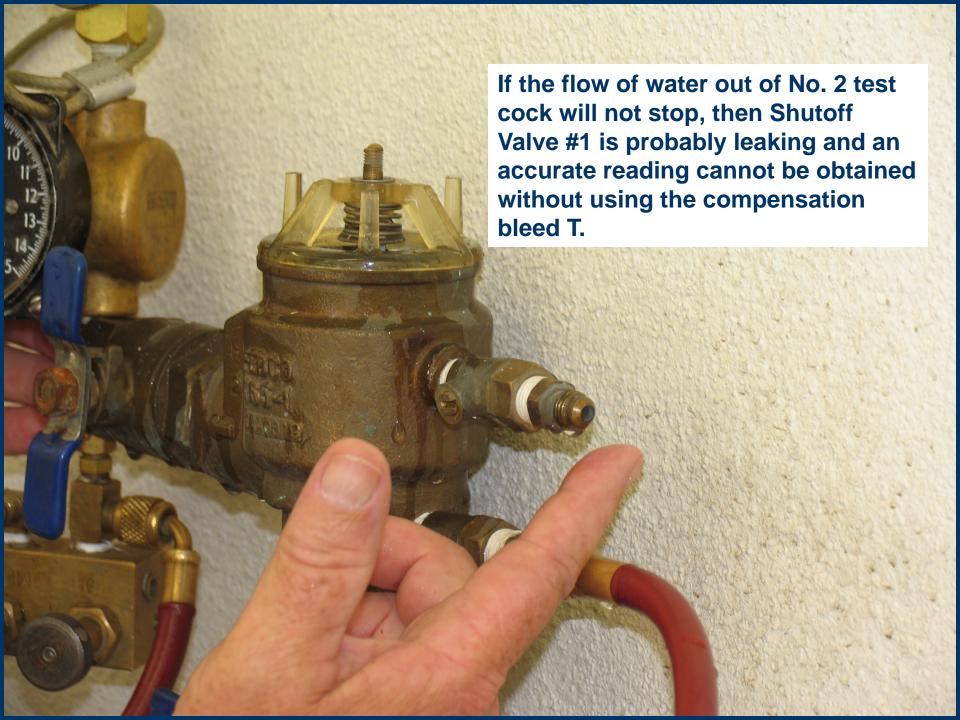
1 test cock and open it to
pressurize the gauge.

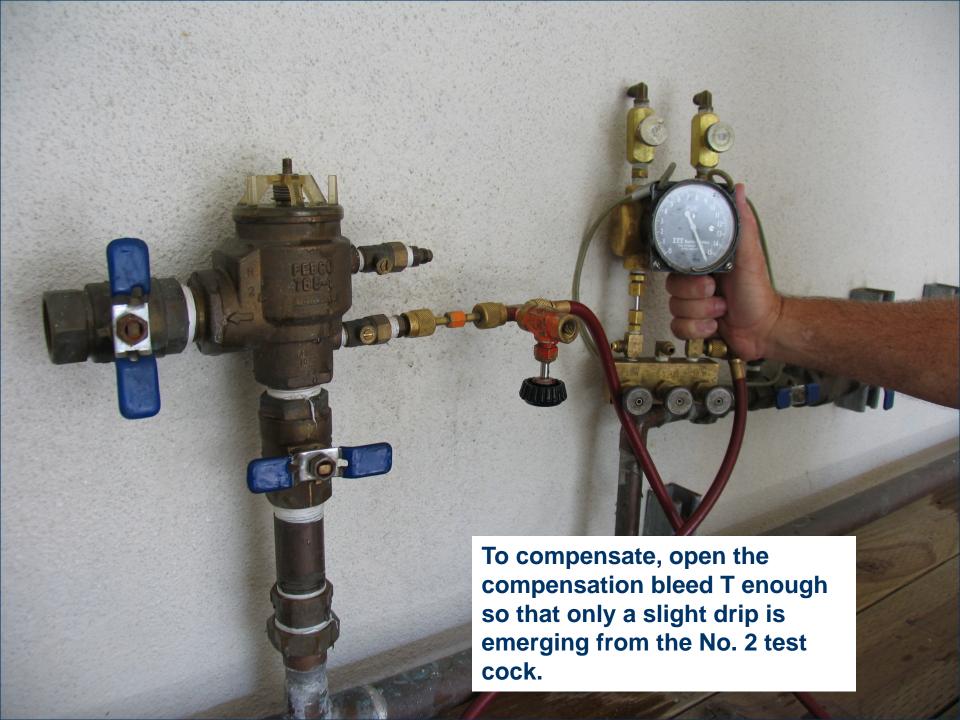




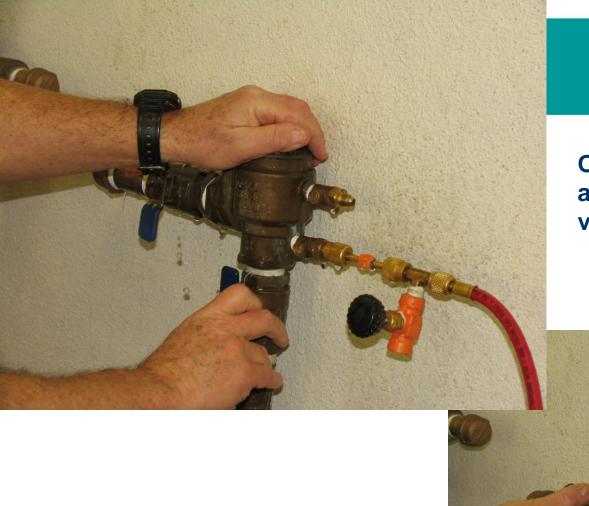






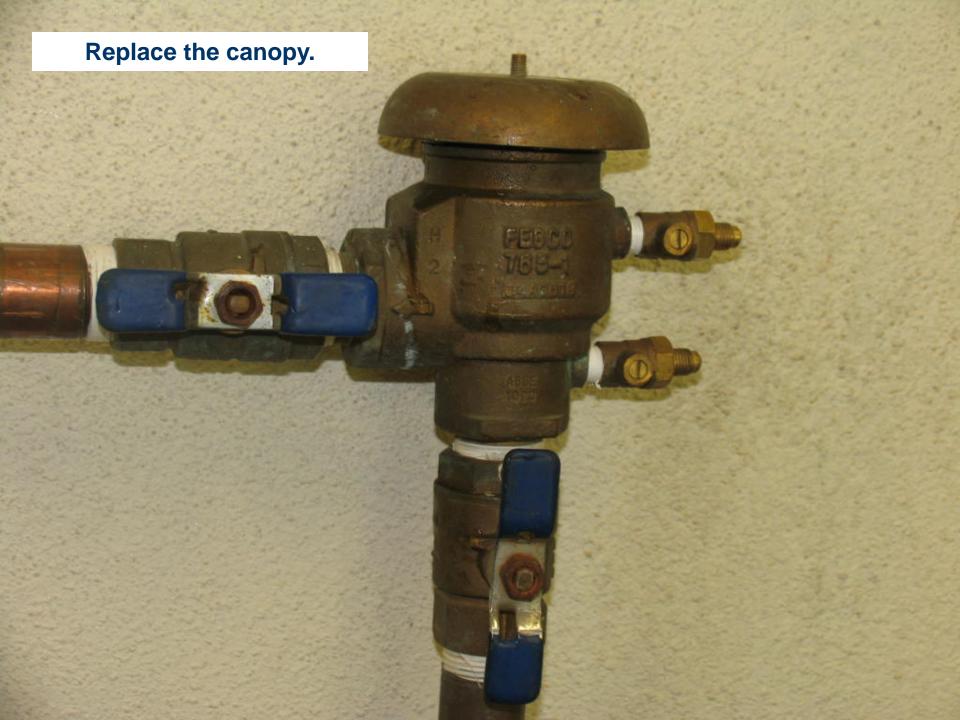






Open the No. 1 shutoff valve and then the No. 2 shutoff valve.

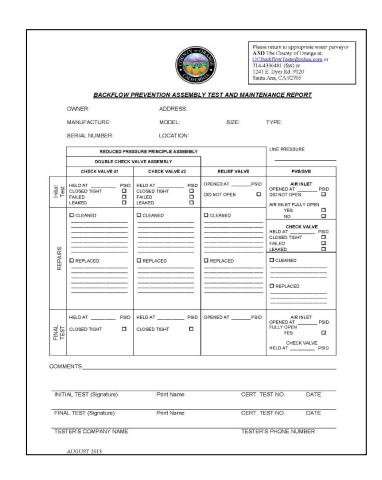




Backflow Testing Review: PVB

Final Steps:

- 1. Disconnect all the hoses from the device
- 2. Restore water to the customer (or leave how the shut-off valves were initially found)
- 3. Fill out the test form correctly and completely
- Submit the form to the water purveyor AND OCHCA.



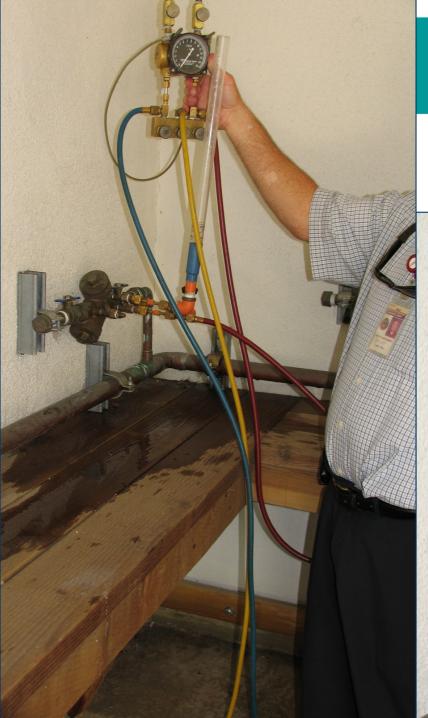


Backflow Testing Review: Troubleshooting

Proper Positions and Handlings of Gauge: Falsely Passing or Failing Devices



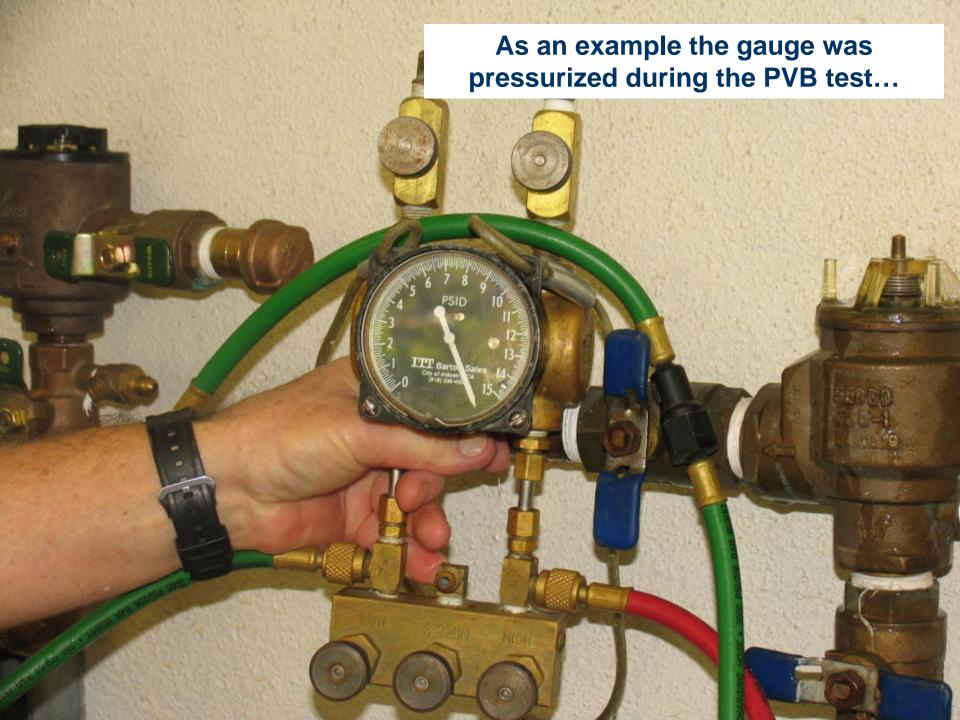


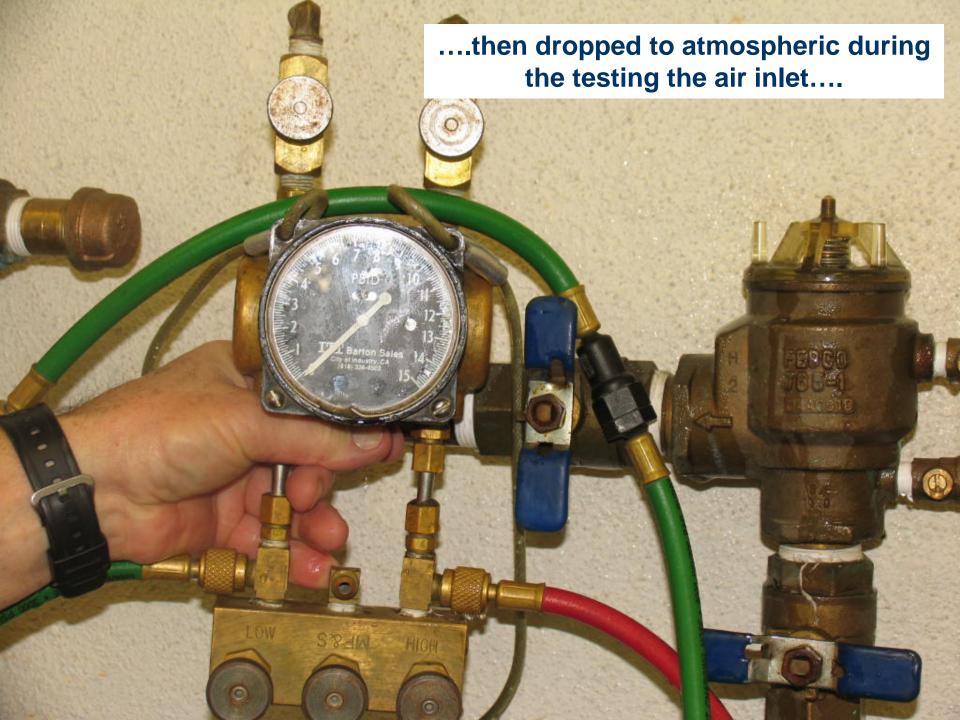


Things are not always what they seem!

REMEMBER THAT GAUGE HEIGHT AND LOOSE HOSES WILL AFFECT YOUR READINGS FOR ALL DEVICES EXCEPT THE **RP** ASSEMBLY!!



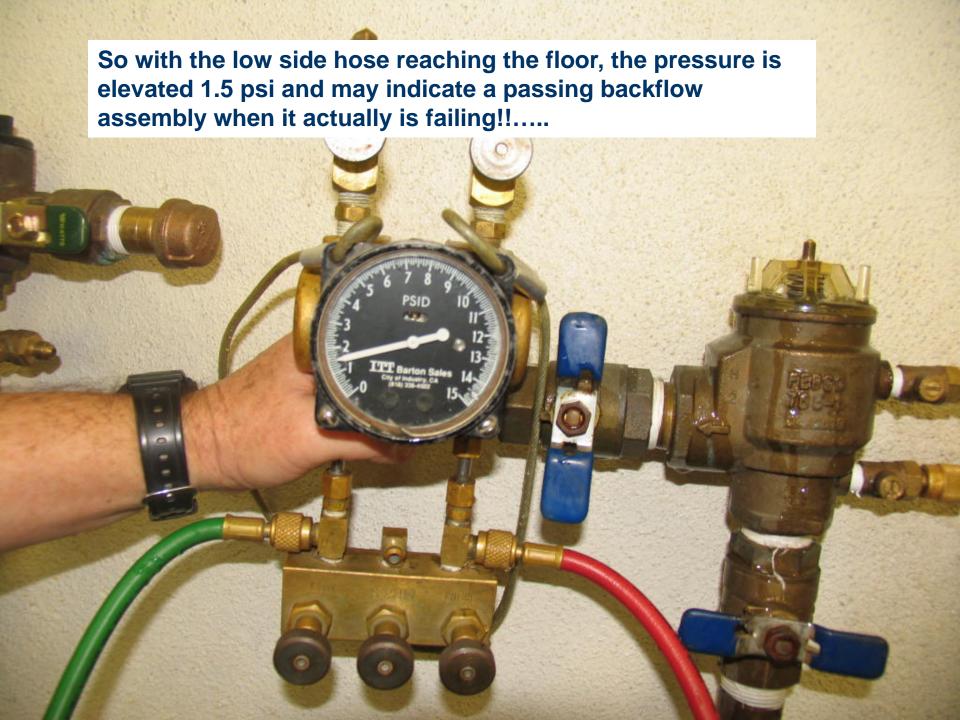






You must be careful to account for dangling hoses and gauge height on DC's, PVB's and SVB's.

Removing the unused hoses is the best idea.



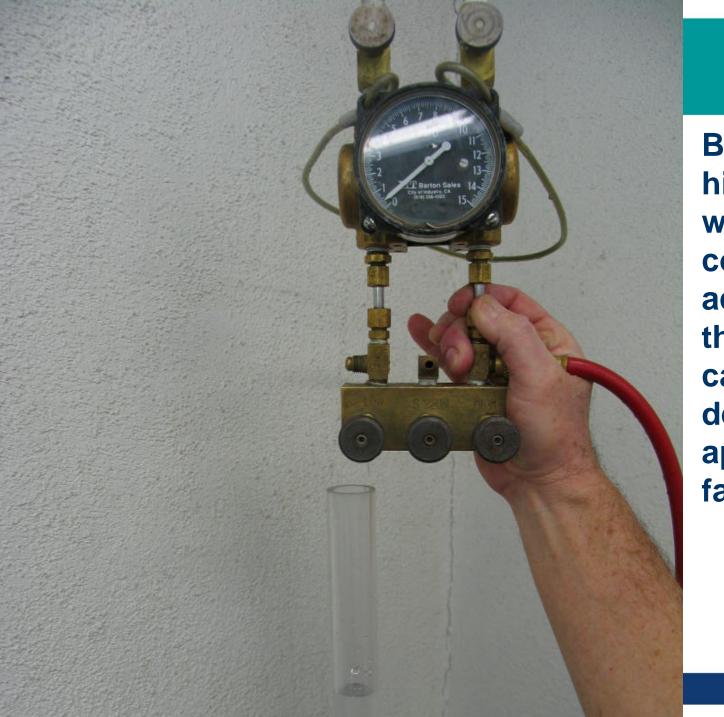






Elevation is also a concern.

With the device held at the height of the water in the column, this double check passes.



But holding it higher than the water in the column actually lowers the pressure causing this device to appear in failure.

IV. Submittal of Test Reports

ealt E AGEN	-	REGULATOF ENVIRON r Rd #120, Santa Ana,	wTests@ochca.com	86 FAX: (714)433-6481
WNER:			ADDRESS:	
ANUFAC	CTURER:	MODEL:	SIZE:	TYPE:
ERIAL N	UMBER: REDUCED PRESSURE			LINE PRESSURE
	CHECK VALVE #1	ASSEMBLY CHECK VALVE #2	RELIEF VALVE	PVB / SVB
INITIAL TEST	HELD AT PSID CLOSED TIGHT D FAILED D LEAKED	HELD AT PSID CLOSED TIGHT D FAILED D LEAKED	OPENED AT PSID DID NOT OPEN	AIR INLET OPENED AT PSID DID NOT OPEN
R E P	CLEANED	CLEANED	CLEANED	CHECK VALVE HELD AT PSID CLOSED TIGHT FAILED LEAKED D
A I R S	REPLACED	□ REPLACED	□ REPLACED	REPLACED
FINAL TEST	HELD AT PSID CLOSED TIGHT	HELD AT PSID CLOSED TIGHT	OPENED ATPSID	AIR INLETPSIC
	FAIL IENTS		PURVEYOR	
	TEST (SIGNATURE)	PRINT NAME PRINT NAME		STER NO. DATE STER NO. DATE

- Why do I have to?
- Which reports do I send?
- Who do I send it to?
- What format do I send it in?
- What is the difference between an initial test and a final test report?
- Who reviews these reports anyway?



Submittal of Test Reports- Why?

Why do you have to submit test reports to us?

- Title 17 Health & Safety Code Section 7605
- The Orange County Cross Connection Control Group Code of Conduct
- Send in a report every time you install, repair, relocate, or test annually a PVB, SVB, DC or RP

"All backflow device test reports must be submitted to the water purveyor <u>and</u> the County Health Department within 10 working days of the initial test, no matter what the result."



Submittal of Test Reports: Procedure

- Complete the test report completely.
- Review for mistakes and items that you may have missed.
- Remember to sign your name and include your OC tester #.
- Record comments and observations on the test report!
 - Was it leaking when you arrived? Write it down
 - Was the #2 shut off valve closed when you got there?
 Write it down
 - How did you repair failing devices? Write it down
 - Was the device missing or stolen? Write it down
 - Was the device corroded? Write it down
 - Did bees turn the backflow into a hive? Write it down



Submittal of Test Reports: Procedure

Once the report is ready to hand-in:

Scan the report and save in a PDF format. Name the report as:

YOUR OC TESTER #- Location of device

Examples: 5321- 1241 E Dyer Rd

1234- 1700 Anywhere Street

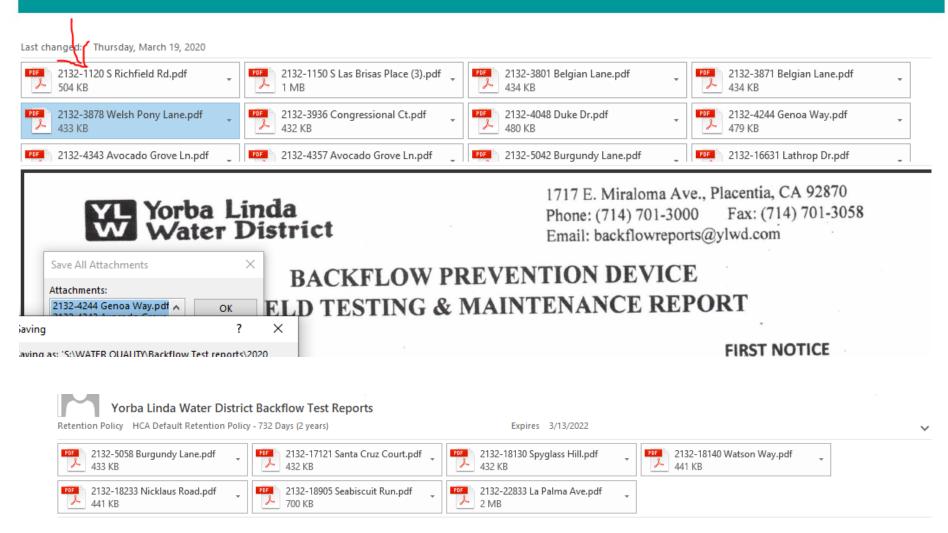
- CC' OCHCA when you email a copy into the water purveyor within <u>10</u> days of testing the device (pass or fail).
- Send reports to OCHCA at:

OCBackFlowTests@ochca.com

If there must be a delay in the submission of a report, the tester shall contact the water agency Cross Connection Specialist in whose jurisdiction the device is located or OCHCA.



Submittal of Test Reports: Example





Submittal of Test Reports

Who reviews these reports anyways?

- The OCHCA Staff
- The water purveyor
- Property owners
- Anyone (including attorneys)- Public Records Act Request

The California Public Records Act is found in the California Government Code, beginning at Section 6250. Records subject to inspection and copying include any writings, meaning any handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording upon any form of communication or representation, including information available in an electronic format.



Submittal of Test Reports: Reminders

- The tester shall ensure that he/she is using the approved test report form as required by the water agency and/or OCHCA.
- A tester shall not knowingly file a false statement or report regarding a backflow prevention device.
- Ensure that you sign your own reports!





VI. Certification Testing







Certification Testing- Why?

Why is Certification Important?



- Certification with OCHCA is <u>required</u> to test backflow devices in Orange County!
- Financial benefit: additional employment opportunities
- Employer benefit: qualified staff to do a variety of jobs, more marketability, can be used in hiring process.
- Personal satisfaction: strong command of plumbing trade, reflects many years of experience.



Certification Testing-Why?

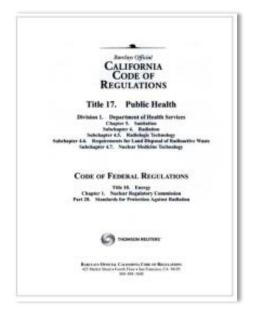
Why Does OCHCA have Backflow Tester Certification Program?



Health & Safety Code - Section 116810 – To ensure that testing and maintenance of backflow prevention devices are performed by persons qualified to do testing and maintenance, local health officers may maintain programs for certification of backflow prevention device testers.



Certification Testing- More Why?



California Code of Regulations Title 17 – Section 7605 (b): Backflow preventers shall be tested by persons who have demonstrated their competency in testing of these devices to the water supplier or *health agency*.

*Note: Title 17 may be revised in the forthcoming Policy Handbook by SWRCB Drinking Water Division.



Certification Testing: New Tester Process

Step #1: 40- Hour Training Course- To qualify for certification in Orange County, a person must first have <u>attended and passed</u> a backflow device tester's course that is approved by OCHCA. The course must provide at least forty hours of instruction covering theory, testing and maintenance of backflow prevention devices, and the applicable laws and regulations relating thereto. Approved tester's courses include, but are not limited to:

- Rancho Santiago College Water Utilities Science 106
- USC Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research short course
- American Water Works Association (AWWA) backflow class
- Other approved community college backflow testing courses or equivalent



Certification Testing: New Tester Process

Step #2- Appointment- The applicant must email <a href="https://ocentem.ncbi.nlm.ncb

Step #3- Certification Exam- Any person applying for initial certification may be required to pass both a written and a performance (practical) exam. A score of at least 80% must be attained on the written exam in order to qualify for the practical exam.



Certification Testing: New Tester Process

Step #4- The practical exam consists of correctly testing a pressure vacuum breaker, a spill-resistant vacuum breaker, a double check valve backflow prevention device, and a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device with a 1-hour time period. Other backflow prevention devices that are approved in the future by the USC Foundation for Cross Connection Control, the State Department of Health Services and OCHCA may also be included in the certification exam.

During the practical examination, a test report form must be completed for each device tested. Additionally, the candidate must also complete a written troubleshooting quiz.



Certification Testing: New Tester Process

Note 1: If you have successfully passed a certification examination by specific third party testers (e.g., AWWA, USC, etc.) AND you submit to OCHCA:

- Proof of your tester certificate within 30 days of passing
- Completed application
- Backflow tester fee payment

Both the written and practical exam may not be required!





Certification Testing: New Tester Process

Note 2: If you hold a current certification in a neighboring county (e.g., LA, Riverside, Ventura, etc.) to get certified with OCHCA:

- Schedule appointment
- Provide proof of other County certification
- Submit completed application
- Pay backflow tester fee
- Pass the practical hands-on exam





VII. Recertification Testing





Recertification Steps- Process

Step #1- Refresher Class- A tester must have taken an approved refresher class within the time period two (2) years before their recertification date. Orange County Environmental Health offers free refresher trainings in the Spring and Fall. The training is currently available online.





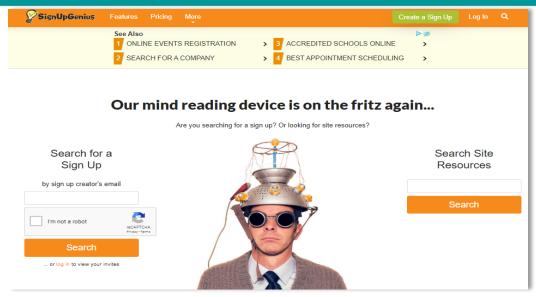
Recertification Testing- Process

Step #2- Recertification scheduling- Recertification notices shall be sent by OCHCA to the tester's home and email address approximately 30 days prior to expiration. Testers must notify OCHCA of an address or other contact information change immediately. After you receive the reminder notice, follow the instructions to sign up for an appointment on

www.signupgenius.com/findasignup

- It is the tester's responsibility to schedule and take their own recertification exam.
- We may open up the testing room for some training days, so please read carefully.





- Confirm Sign-Up Genius Website registration for practical exam.
- www.signupgenius.com/findasignup
- Enter: <u>ocbackflowtests@ochca.com</u>
- Click: I am not a robot.
- Click: Search.
- Select an available date & time and click save.



Step #3- Day of your test- Your test will be held out the OCHCA building at 1421 E Dyer Rd, Santa Ana CA 92620



Bring your method to pay, ID, proof of refresher class, test gauge, and proof of gauge calibration.



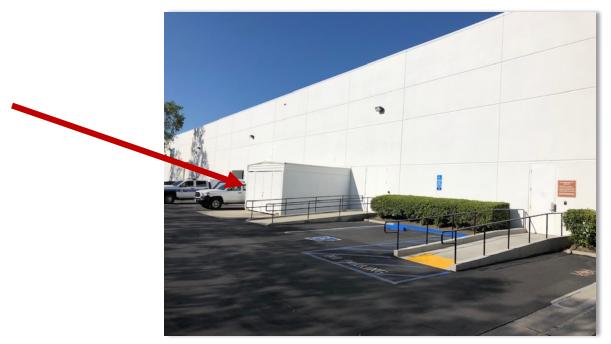
Step #4- Go in the Lobby-

Arrive at least 10 minutes early for testing.

- Sign-in on the backflow tester sign-in sheet.
- Obtain a parking pass and place in your vehicle (if you have not brought one with you).
- Review Code of Conduct document.
- Complete application.
- Pay for the backflow refresher recertification
- Wait until your proctor gets you from the lobby



Step #5- Test area- Walk with your proctor to the testing area in the back. Provide the proctor with confirmation of gauge calibration and backflow refresher. The proctor will read detailed instructions to you before you begin.





Recertification- The Practical

Step #6- Practical Test

- 1 hour to do 2 parts to pass
 - Unlimited attempts within an hour
- Successfully test <u>all 4</u> devices per USC 10th Edition testing procedures:
 - Reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly (RP)
 - Double check valve (DC)
 - Spill resistant pressure vacuum breaker assembly (SVB)
 - Pressure vacuum breaker (PVB)
- Troubleshooting questions
 - Correctly answer all 3 written questions



Recertification- Reminders

- Recertification consists of the practical test and fee payment only if the tester is recertifying within one (1) year of their OCHCA expiration date or if they are currently certified in neighboring county AND have taken the refresher class within the last 2 years.
- If the OCHCA certification is expired more than 1 year, but less than 2 years, the tester will need to take a refresher class, the written exam, and the hands-on practical exam.
- If the OCHCA certification is expired for 2 or more years, the tester will need to pass a 40-hour training course, the written exam, and the hands-on practical exam.

^{*}Tester fee payments apply to all of the above scenarios.



Recertification- After you pass!

Step #7- After the Practical-

- After passing exam, take photo for ID.
- You may then pay for Approved Tester List.



• Approved Tester List- A certified tester may choose to be placed on the list of OCHCA certified testers. To be placed on the certified tester list, a tester must be currently certified by OCHCA and pay the tester's list fee. The OCHCA list is organized by city, with testers listed under one city on the basis of the seniority of their tester number. The tester list is organized in this way to facilitate a business' attempt to find testers working in their area. Although a tester is listed under one city, he/she may test throughout Orange County.



Recertification- If You Don't Pass 😕

Alternate Step #7- After the Practical-

- You can test with OCHCA (3) three times during a (6) six month period.
 - Each test will require a separate fee payment
 - You may get a different proctor
 - You may get a different troubleshooting test
 - Study the USC Manual of Cross Connection 10th Edition!
- If you do not pass after the 3rd try, you will have to wait until the next recertification period and take another refresher class.



VII. Enforcement





Enforcement

California Health and Safety Code Section 116820 states:

"The local health officer may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew the certificate of a tester, if, after a hearing before the local health officer or his designee, the local health officer or his designee finds that the tester has practiced fraud or deception or has displayed gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of his or her duties as a certified backflow prevention device tester."

*OCHCA is the local health officer for all of Orange County.



Enforcement

- Also, failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct for Backflow Prevention Device Testers Certified in Orange County
- OCHCA requires you to review and sign that you will abide by the Code of Conduct at every certification/recertification



Code of Conduct for Backflow Prevention Device Testers Certified in Orange County

The Orange County Cross Connection Control Group (OCCCCG) exists to provide all of its members with a professional atmosphere in which to discuss existing procedures and to become familiar with new developments in the field of cross connection control and to encourage improved quality of service, professionalism, and programs. To this end, we, the members of the OCCCCG require the following Code of Conduct for backflow device testers certified in Orange County:

- A tester must have a current tester certification from Orange County Environmental Health (County Health Department) to test backflow prevention devices in Orange County.
- 2. A tester must not knowingly falsify the results of backflow device field tests performed by him.

EXAMPLES:

- Signing backflow test reports for tests he did not perform.
- Making unneeded repairs.
- Not having proper backflow certification to perform tests in Orange County.
- Not using proper test procedures as established by Orange County Environmental Health.
- · Using unauthorized backflow test equipment.
- A tester must not remove, replace, or relocate a backflow device without the approval of the water purveyor or the Orange County Health Department
- 4. All backflow device test reports must be submitted to the water purveyor and the County Health Department within 10 working days of the initial test, no matter what the result. If there is a specific problem relating to the test or the test report form, the tester must call the water agency or the County Health Department.
- All backflow reports must be submitted on proper forms. They must be legible and contain all appropriate information pertaining to the test.
- A tester must attend a backflow prevention device tester update seminar at least once every two years.
 The seminar must review current test procedures and be approved by Orange County Environmental
 Health
- It is the tester's responsibility to inform Environmental Health of any changes in their address, phone
 mumbers, etc. To report changes, contact Sham Elmishad at (714) 433-6284 or email changes to
 HElmishad@ochca.com and Erasmo Jacinto at (714) 433-6288 or email changes to
 Elacinto@ochca.com.

Any tester failing to comply with the provisions of this Code of Conduct is subject to disciplinary action. The results of the action can be the loss of testing privileges in the county or in a water purveyor's jurisdiction. Also, it is a misdemeanor violation to knowingly file a false test report.

Adopted: 4/27/1989 Revised: 4/16/2020



Enforcement: Reminders

- 1. A tester must have a current tester certification from OCHCA to test backflow prevention devices in Orange County.
- 2. A tester must not knowingly falsify the results of backflow device field tests performed by him.

EXAMPLES:

- Signing backflow test reports for tests he did not perform.
- Making unneeded repairs.
- Not having proper backflow certification to perform tests in Orange County.
- Not using proper test procedures as established by Orange County Environmental Health.
- Using unauthorized backflow test equipment.
- A tester must not remove, replace, or relocate a backflow device without the approval of the water purveyor or OCHCA.



Enforcement: Reminders continued

- All backflow device test reports must be submitted to the water purveyor and OCHCA within 10 working days of the initial test, no matter what the result. If there is a specific problem relating to the test or the test report form, the tester must call the water agency or OCHCA.
- 4. All backflow reports must be submitted on proper forms. They must be legible and contain all appropriate information pertaining to the test.
- A tester must attend a backflow prevention device tester update seminar at least once every two years. The seminar must review current test procedures and be approved by OCHCA.
- It is the tester's responsibility to inform OCHCA of any changes in their address, phone numbers, etc. To report changes, contact Sham Elmishad at (714) 433-6284 or email changes to HElmishad@ochca.com and Erasmo Jacinto at (714) 433-6288 or email changes to EJacinto@ochca.com.



Enforcement- *How?*



- Test reports reviewed by both the water purveyor and OCHCA for "red flags"
- We do random auditing
- Each water purveyor has unique auditing processes
- Onsite random back testing is done
- Onsite specific back testing –
 with cause is also done
- Phone inquires with testers and onsite managers
- Complaints and concerns are addressed with a thorough investigation



Enforcement-Some Examples of "Red Flags"

- Missing data
- Conflicting data
- Report results for the wrong device
- Missing signature/tester info
- Missing final report post repairs
- Reporting results for untenable or uninstalled devices
- Testing with expired certification
- Allowing non-certified testers to test devices
- Performing unneeded repairs
- Not using approved test procedures (Currently USC Manual of Cross Connection 10th ed.)
- Using unauthorized or non-calibrated backflow test equipment.
- Complaints from other testers, water purveyors, customers, etc.





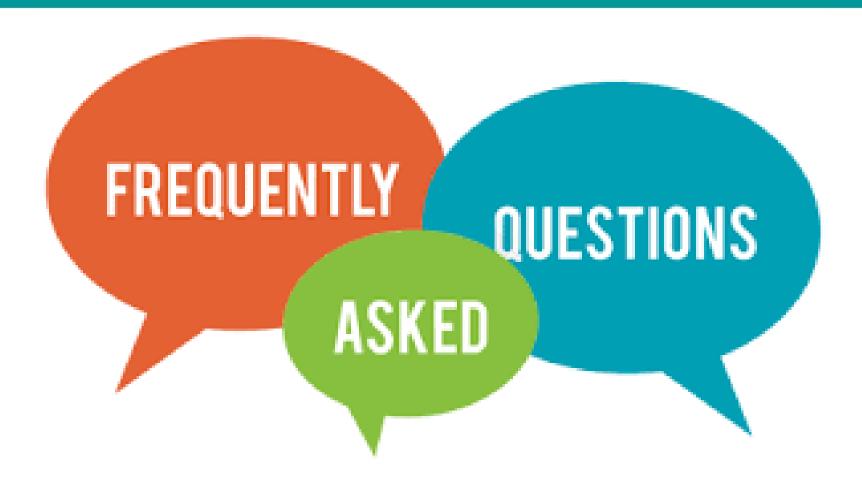
Enforcement- OCHCA Procedure

OCHCA completes some or all of the following actions during an possible enforcement situation:

- Data collection and inspections (back testing)
- Collaboration with the water purveyor
- Phone calls to all parties involved
- Office meetings to discuss issues
- Disciplinary hearing is held
- Suspension notice issued temporary or long term (1-2 years or indefinitely)
- Suspension terms are defined
- Possible referral to the District Attorney's office for prosecution



VIII. FAQs





VIII. FAQs- General

Who do I contact with questions?

Lauren Robinson	(714) 433-6280	LRobinson@OCHCA.com
Sham Elmishad	(714) 433-6284	HElmishad@ochca.com
Erasmo Jacinto	(714) 433-6288	EJacinto@ochca.com

What happened to the following OCHCA Water Quality staff?

- Pauline Liu- City of Anaheim
- Larry Brennler- Retired
- Jennifer Reyes- Mesa Water District
- Kristen Schroeder City of Huntington Beach
- Lauren Hatch Irvine Ranch Water District
- John Banoczi Retired
- Marty Friebert Retired
- Larry Finch- Retired



FAQs- *General*

Methods of Payment for the test

- Cash
- Credit Card must have identification
 - Must be in your name or if another person is paying they must be present
- Check
 - The check must be YOURS (personal) or the Company you work for
 - NO personal checks from another person will be accepted UNLESS the other person is with you and has identification



FAQs- Backflow Tester List

BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE TESTERS

The following Backflow Prevention Device Testers are certified by the Orange County Health Care Agency, Division of Environmental Health as of April 15, 2020.

Note: Although the testers are listed under a specific city or County area they are certified to test throughout Orange County. A business license and/or plumbing permit may be required by the city in which the work is being conducted. Also, State is we requires that anyone who contracts to do construction work be licensed by the Contractors State License Board in the license category in which the contractor is going to be working if the total price of the job is \$500.00 or more (including labor and materials). A State Contractors license is not required for the testing of backflow devices as long as the total cost of the work is under \$500.00.

Aliso Viejo

F.A.S.T. Fire Protection David Webb #1357 (949) 766-3226

H20 Backflow Service Reynold Olms #2205 (949) 400-8276

The Backflow Guys Denis LaVertu, Sr. #2068 (949) 412-8749 (949) 380-9751 FAX

National Backflow, Inc. Michael Crume #2478 (949) 273-8614 (949) 273-8615 Fax

Blue Water Backflow Bahram (Bob) Sarwary #3281 (949) 335-2314

Abackflow Service Tech James Hadley #2409 (949) 433-6632

South Coast Backflow Jose Lienas #3321 (714) 709-6215

Backflow Time Andrew Rithimaki #3174 (800) 678-8979

Anaheim

Backflow Apparatus & Valve Co. (BAVCO) Bob Purzycki #288 (714) 891-5605 (800) 458-3492

Thomas Plumbing Co. Thomas Miller #977 (714) 527-5201 (714) 801-7315 (Cell)

Gene Pira #441 (818) 342-4744

Aabco Plumbing Eric Nofziger #1772 (714) 307-9438 (714) 817-8569 Fax

Prevent Backflow & Plumbing James Motis #1980 (714) 635-9902

Aqua Backflow & Chlorination, Inc. Kelly Kieswetter #2502 (888) 598-7251

Backflow Testing & Service Co. Noel Trevino #2443 (310) 316-8248 (310) 487-9909

AAA Companies Aaron Dricker #2647 (800) 892-4784

Anthony's Plumbing Anthony Tubbs #2780 (855) 720-4366

Anaheim

Pennine Plumbing Christopher McGrall #2543 (562) 407-2724

Ramsey Backflow & Plumbing Adam Ramsey #2930 (714) 778-8444

Living Waters Backflow Jarrod Burris #2446 (760) 646-0194

Los Angeles Plumbing and Backflow Inc. Esteban Espindola #2760 (626) 814-0818

Cintas Fire Protection Justin Colannino #2926 (800) 841-9696

NIR Plumbing Serio Cortez #3040 (951) 300-6681

Accurate Backflow Testing Sean Vincent #3061 (818) 909-7880

2 The Point Environmental Services Walld Makhlouf #3069 (714) 305-9894

Go Fire Protection Ryan Golub #3067 (951) 310-2709

AE Landscape Design Brian Bluhm #3094 (909) 980-8300

- Once you successfully recertified with OCHCA, you can choose to be on the OCHCA backflow tester list
- Remember that to be placed on the list you will have to submit a separate payment!
- The Backflow Tester list can be viewed here:

https://www.ochealthinfo.com/eh/water/bftesters



If you sign up for a 9:00-10:00 AM appointment, when should you arrive?

In this example, you should arrive at least 10 minutes before your appointment begins at 9:00, so before 8:50 AM. Your appointment will run from 9:00-10:00 AM. Please try to be on time, we are typically booked solidly all day. If you are late for your appointment, we may have to reschedule you to a different time or day. Please contact us if you are unable to make your appointment when it is assigned.



Do I have to pay before I take the hands-on practical for recertification? YES

What if I do not pass? Do I get a refund? NO

Please study and be prepared



What if I haven't taken an update seminar in the last 2 years and come in for the hands on test for recertification?

You can no longer take the hands on test for recertification until you have attended a backflow prevention device tester update seminar.

The seminar must review current test procedures. (ex: AWWA, ABPA, IAPMO, USC or other approved)

Bring proof of attendance with you to your appointment if you do not attend the OCHCA seminar.



Study the USC Manual of Cross-Connection Control 10th Edition!!!!



Do NOT rely on YouTube videos to study!!!!!

IX. Coming Soon- Backflow To The Future!!



Health & Safety Code 116407 – mandates for the creation of a **policy handbook** for backflow protection and cross-connection control, with potential revisions to Certification Requirements for backflow testers.



Coming Soon

Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook



- The Division of Drinking Water of the SWRCB is developing a handbook to be released in 2020/2021, which will repeal Title 17.
- Title 17 mandated cross-connection control regulations since 1987 across California.



Handbook – Potential Impacts

- Clarification of language for PWS/Water Districts/Purveyors, including denial or discontinuation of water service if no corrective action is taken to maintain backflow prevention.
- Each PWS/Districts/Purveyors may require a schedule for ensuring 100% of backflows in system will be tested.
- May require Database of backflow inventory, testing records, hazard assessments, and testers.
- PWS/Districts/Purveyors may expand oversight of backflow tester certification, detecting falsified reports, corrective measures.
- The state may allow ANSI (American National Standards Institute) as third party entity to create certification standards for organizations who certify specialists and backflow testers.



Quiz Time!

Click Here for the Quiz!

- After you submit your quiz, you will receive an email within the next week with either:
 - Your certificate of completion
 - OR instructions to re-take the quiz because you did not score at least a 70%.
 - Submit the quiz via the SUBMIT button or email back to <u>OCBackFlowTests@OCHCA.com</u>.



Thank you safe! and stay

