

Backflow devices are not to be substituted for applications that require backflow assemblies. They usually do not include shutoff valves or test cocks, and they usually cannot be tested or repaired in-line. Many devices have restrictive head-loss and flow restrictions. These devices are used for internal protection and usually come only in smaller sizes (2 in. [51 mm] and smaller). The application of these devices usually comes under the jurisdiction of the plumbing code, because they usually are located only in private plumbing systems. A water purveyor that has concerns about the use of some devices should consult with local plumbing code officials concerning whether, what types, and where backflow devices can be used.

*Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control*, American Water Works Association Manual M14, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, page 56