

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Snowmass Water & Sanitation District Failure to Test Backflow Prevention Devices

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. Although this situation is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

The state drinking water program requires that all public drinking water systems test a percentage of the backflow prevention devices annually. We received a violation because our water system did not test the required percentage.

### What does this mean? What should I do?

- **You may want to use an alternative drinking water supply (e.g. bottled). If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.**
- Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to a back pressure or siphonage event that may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.
- If you have an infant, severely compromised immune system, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your doctor about drinking this water. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by bacteria and other disease-causing organisms are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### What is being done?

- During the 2022 sanitary survey, the District received three violations pertaining to the Backflow Prevention Program or Cross Connection Program. The Tier 2 violations were failed assembly or inadequate method, the supplier permitted a cross connection, and the backflow assembly testing compliance ratio was not met. To resolve these violations the District has changed the rules and regulations to set a due date for receipt of testing records and to apply fines up to \$500 a day if due date is not met. Additionally, disconnection will occur if compliance to the BPCCC program is not met within each calendar year, with a 90 day buffer. Currently, letters and emails have been sent to all commercial properties that have not complied or have failed devices for 2022. The District strives to keep complete records moving forward.

We anticipate resolving the problem by **By 1/7/2023**. For more information, please contact **Kit Hamby** at **khamby@swsd.org** or **(970) 923-2056**, or **PO Box 5700, Snowmass Village, CO 81615**.

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**