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## BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES PROTECT YOUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

August 16 is National Backflow Prevention Day, celebrating the unsung heroes of backflow prevention assemblies (BPA) and Cross Connection Control Programs that protect water quality in public and private drinking water systems. Backflow is the undesirable reversal of flow of water in a water system. Common residential backflow hazards include irrigation systems, pools, decorative fountains, water softeners, hot water recirculation pumps, and fire lines. Unintentional backflow conditions can be created through cross-connecting drinking water with contaminated water, like submerging a hose into a pool, or connecting a booster or chemical injection pump to the drinking water system. A properly functioning BPA prevents clean drinking water from being mixed with contaminated water.

One of the first reported backflow incidents occurred on August 16, 1933 at the Chicago World's Fair. Due to poor plumbing codes and enforcement, two of the main hotels housing the fair guests had cross-connections that severely contaminated the water supply with amoebic dysentery. There were nearly 100 deaths and 700 documented cases that spread over 206 cities in the US as visitors traveled home and more than 1,000 additional cases in Chicago related to the two hotels. As a result of this incident, drinking water standards have been improved to protect water quality and public health.

Today, our water quality is protected through federal, state, and local drinking water regulation, plumbing codes, and best practices. Passed in 1974, the US Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Act is the principal federal law regulating safe drinking water for the public. Cross-Connection Control Programs (CCCP) are part of those requirements.

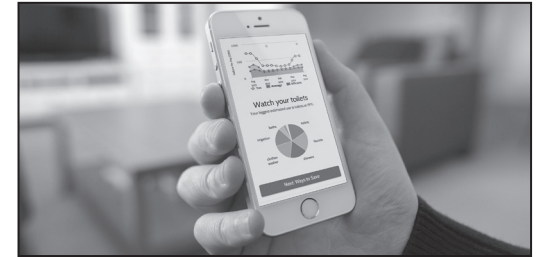
The City's CCCP monitors development projects and changes of use in properties for potential hazards to the drinking water system and requires the installation of BPAs. CCCP staff requires regular testing of BPAs and monitors to see if they are installed and functioning correctly. Staff also oversee the certification of backflow assembly testers to make sure they are qualified to test private plumbing.

To learn more about the City's Cross Connection Control Program, or if a BPA is required for your property, visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Backflow](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Backflow) or call (805) 564-5575.



*A properly functioning backflow prevention assembly on private property prevents clean drinking water from being mixed with contaminated water.*

## GET WATER LEAK ALERTS AND PROTECT YOUR HOME



*Register your account to receive email or text leak alerts whether you're at home or away.*

Surprises can be fun, but not when it comes to water leaks and property damage. WaterSmart is the City's new customer portal that gives you 24/7 access to online tools to manage water use and pay bills.

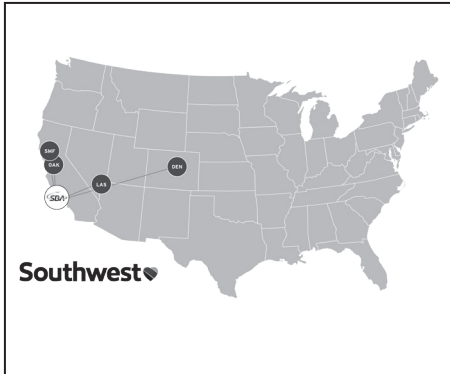
In March, the City launched WaterSmart to support our community's commitment to water efficiency. This innovative program notifies customers of potential water leaks and alerts can be received as early as 24 hours after a leak begins. Register for WaterSmart to ensure you are notified as quickly as possible.

### WaterSmart also allows you to:

- Track hourly, daily, and monthly water use
- Get automated leak alerts
- Diagnose a high bill
- Set custom alerts for unusual water use

Signing up is easy and fast—you just need your City utility account number and zip code: [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart). Join the growing community of Santa Barbara homes and businesses that are benefitting from WaterSmart. We look forward to helping more customers avoid property damage and high bills due to leaks.

## DISCOVER ONE-STOP DESTINATIONS FROM SBA



Southwest offers easy one-stop connections across the country.

Ready for your next adventure? Skip the drive to LA and fly out of Santa Barbara Airport! Southwest Airlines offers convenient nonstop service to Denver, Las Vegas, Oakland, and Sacramento. From these hubs, you can easily reach major cities across the country with just one stop. Whether you're seeking the vibrant energy of New York or Chicago, the southern charm of Nashville or New Orleans, or the sunny skies of Hawaii or Florida, get there with ease from SBA.

Learn more at [FlySBA.com/FlySouthwest](http://FlySBA.com/FlySouthwest).

## HOW THE CITY SUPPORTS AN INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE

The City celebrates inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility through actions that ensure everyone has opportunities for success. We value the diverse experiences and perspectives each person brings to our community and organization, empowering individuals to be their authentic selves. As an Equal Opportunity Employer (EEO), we strongly encourage those interested in making a difference in their community, contributing ideas, and joining the City team to apply!

Apply today for our current listing of regular or hourly positions! For more information, scan the QR code or visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/careers](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/careers).



Scan QR code for hourly positions.

Scan QR code for Regular Positions.

## CÓMO LA CIUDAD APOYA UNA FUERZA LABORAL INCLUSIVA

La Ciudad celebra la inclusión, la diversidad, la equidad y la accesibilidad a través de acciones que aseguran que todos tengan oportunidades de éxito. Valoramos las diversas experiencias y perspectivas que cada persona aporta a nuestra comunidad y organización, empoderando a los individuos para que sean auténticos. Como Empleador con Igualdad de Oportunidades (EEO), alentamos encarecidamente a quienes estén interesados en hacer una diferencia en su comunidad, contribuir con ideas y unirse al equipo de la Ciudad a aplicar.

¡Aplica hoy a nuestra lista actual de puestos regulares o por horas! Para más información, escanea el código QR o visita [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/careers](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/careers).



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**¿NECESITAS AYUDA?**  
*¡La ciudad está a un clic de distancia!*

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