

## **2016 Plumbing Code Change**

**(This effects all homeowners with an Irrigation System)**

The new Minnesota plumbing code that went into effect on January 23, 2016 will effect ALL sprinkler systems in the state.

The backflow or RPZ is a mechanical plumbing device installed into your irrigation system to prevent water from flowing backwards from the irrigation system and entering the main water supply. It is attached to the main water supply and goes to the irrigation system. There are many different types of these but they are all used to keep water from entering the main water supply.



This new code states that homeowners are required to have this piece of equipment tested yearly by a licensed and certified backflow tester and filed with the municipality. The homeowner and tester are required to keep record of these tests.

The link to the new code can be found here: <http://www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingBackflow.asp>

The city that monitors your water will be the one who will enforce this new code. If you do not comply with the new code, based off current municipalities who are enforcing them, you may receive a fine for the first violation, a larger fine for the second, and finally they may turn the water off to the system if you do not comply a third time. Your city's website should have information coming soon on city specific enforcement codes.

**Northway Irrigation will be able to perform these tests for you, along with taking care of the necessary paperwork!** We will make sure the proper municipality gets their paperwork and that you receive a copy for your personal records