



Tempe Environmental Bulletin

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Backflow Prevention Device Theft Prevention

Due to soaring prices of copper and brass there has been a rash of backflow preventer thefts all across the United States. Back flow theft costs include: replacement of the assembly, piping and grounds repairs, property flood damage, lost productivity and business disruption.

You can help prevent thefts by:

Painting the device - Paint acts as a deterrent since painted metal is less valuable.

Camouflaging the device - Fake rocks work well to hide backflow assembly. Just be sure to keep a one-foot clearance around the assembly.

Installing an assembly with less metal - There are some approved models that utilize plastic, making them less valuable to thieves.

Enclosing the assembly in a locking enclosure - Keep in mind that backflow assembly must be tested annually and the tester will need access to your assembly.

Other deterrents to theft include: increased lighting, trimmed landscaping, added patrols, video surveillance and increased vigilance and awareness.

Governors Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability

On August 28, 2009, Governor Jan Brewer announced the formation of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability. The last meeting of the BRP occurred on November 19, 2010. The panel was chaired by ADWR Director Herb Guenther, ADEQ Director Ben Grumbles, and Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman Kris Mayes and comprised of individuals from the public and private sectors with experience in water resources and water quality. The goal was to focus a statewide effort aimed at improving the long term sustainability of Arizona's water supplies through increased conservation and recycling, and identifying and overcoming obstacles to increased water sustainability.

The Final Report has been issued and can be found at : <http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/waterManagement/BlueRibbonPanel.htm>



Reminder - Arizona Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)

The AZPDES MSGP 2010 permits (Mining and Non-mining) were signed December 20, 2010. The effective date for both permits is February 01, 2011. Existing facilities have 120 days from the effective date (i.e., until May 31, 2011) to prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and submit the Notice of Intent (NOI) to obtain coverage under either MSGP 2010 permit. All facilities in Arizona subject to ADEQ's MSGP 2010 are required to apply or reapply under the appropriate new permit.

The Arizona Multi-Sector General Permit (Industrial Stormwater Permits and forms are posted at: <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/permits/msgp.html>

City of Tempe Stormwater Program Reminder:

It is a violation of the City of Tempe Code to cause or allow a non-stormwater discharge to a stormwater drain. For more information, please see Section 12-125(a) of the Tempe Stormwater Ordinance or Tempe's Stormwater Management Program at <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater/managementplan.htm>

For information about stormwater or to report illicit discharges to storm drains call: City of Tempe, Environmental Services Division, 480-350-2811, anytime or go on-line: <http://www.tempe.gov/stormwater/stormwatercomplaintform.htm>

