ORDINANCE NO. 419-25 OF THE MEADOW VIST COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
Amending Ordinance 380-06

INSTITUTING A CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

THE MEADOW VISTA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is (1) to protect the public water supply against actual or potential contamination that may occur within a water user's premises because of some undiscovered or unauthorized cross connection on the premises; (2) to eliminate existing connections between drinking water systems and other sources of water that are not approved as safe and potable for human consumption; (3) to eliminate cross-connections between drinking water systems and sources of contamination; (4) to prevent the making of cross-connections in the future.

This rule is pursuant to the State of California Water Resources Control Board's Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) which requires mandatory compliance with the CCCPH by all public water systems. The provisions of the CCCPH shall prevail over any inconsistent provisions contained in this Ordinance. The District Secretary shall maintain 3 copies of the CCCPH at all times in the office of the District for examination by the public. A copy of the CCCPH is attached as Exhibit 'A' and is hereby adopted and incorporated into this Ordinance as is fully set forth.

It is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation at any time to make or maintain or cause to be made or maintained, temporarily or permanently, for any period of time whatsoever, any cross-connection between plumbing pipes or water fixtures being served with water by the District water department and any other source of water supply or to maintain any sanitary fixture or other appurtenances or fixtures which, by reason of their construction, may cause or allow backflow of water or other substances into the water supply system of the District and/or the service of water pipes or fixtures of any consumer of the District.

Operational policies, testing protocols, recordkeeping, and hazard assessment procedures shall be governed by the District's Cross-Connection Control Plan developed in accordance with the CCCPH.

SECTION 2: DEFINITIONS

A. "Air-gap separation" or "AG" means a physical vertical separation of at least two (2) times the effective pipe diameter between the free-flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipeline and the flood level of an open or non-pressurized receiving vessel, and in no case less than one (1) inch.

B. "Approved water supply" means a water source that has been approved by the State Water Board for domestic use in a public water system and designated as such in a domestic water supply permit issued pursuant to section 116525 of the CHSC.

C. "Auxiliary water supply" means a source of water, other than an approved water supply, that is either used or equipped, or can be equipped, to be used as a water supply and is located on the premises of, or available to, a water user.

D. "Backflow" means an undesired or unintended reversal of flow of water and/or other liquids, gases, or other substances into a public water system's distribution system or approved water supply.

E. "Backflow prevention assembly" or "BPA" means a mechanical assembly designed and constructed to prevent backflow, such that while in-line it can be maintained and its ability to prevent backflow, as designed, can be field tested, inspected and evaluated.

F. "Backflow prevention assembly tester" means a person who is certified as a backflow prevention assembly tester.

G. "Community water system" means a public water system that serves at least 15 service connections used by yearlong residents or regularly serves at least 25 yearlong residents of the area served by the system.

H. "Contact hour" means not less than 50 minutes of a continuing education course.

I. "Continuing education course" means a presentation or training that transmits information related to cross-connection control programs and backflow prevention and protection.

J. "Cross-connection" means any actual or potential connection or structural arrangement between a public water system, including a piping system connected to the public water system and located on the premises of a water user or available to the water user, and any source or distribution system containing liquid, gas, or other substances not from an approved water supply.

K. "Cross-connection control specialist" means a person who is certified as a cross-connection control specialist.

L. "Distribution system" has the same meaning as defined in section 63750.50 of CCR, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 2.

M. "Double check detector backflow prevention assembly" or "DCDA" means a double check valve backflow prevention assembly that includes a bypass with a water meter and double check backflow prevention assembly, with the bypass's water meter accurately registering flow rates up to two gallons per minute and visually showing a registration for all rates of flow. This type of assembly may only be used to isolate low hazard cross-connections. See Diagram 1, Appendix C of the State of California Water Resources Control Board's Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook.

N. "Double check detector backflow prevention assembly – type II" or "DCDA-II" means a double check valve backflow prevention assembly that includes a bypass around the second check, with the bypass having a single check valve and a water meter accurately registering flow rates up to two gallons per minute and visually showing a registration for all rates of flow. This type of assembly may only be used to isolate low hazard cross-connections. See Diagram 2, Appendix C.

O. "Double check valve backflow prevention assembly" or "DC" means an assembly consisting of two independently-acting internally-loaded check valves, with tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly (upstream and downstream of the two check valves) and fitted with test cocks that enable accurate field testing of the assembly. This type of assembly may only be used to isolate low hazard cross-connections. See Diagram 3, Appendix C.

P. "Existing public water system" or "existing PWS" means a public water system initially permitted on or before July 1, 2024 as a public water system by the State Water Board.

Q. "Hazard Assessment" means an evaluation of a user premises designed to evaluate the types and degrees of hazard at a user's premises. All evaluations and device determinations must be based on hazard assessments conducted per CCCPH standards

R. “High hazard cross-connection” means a cross-connection that poses a threat to the potability or safety of the public water supply. Materials entering the public water supply through a high hazard cross-connection are contaminants or health hazards. See Appendix D for some examples.

S. “Low hazard cross-connection” means a cross-connection that has been found to not pose a threat to the potability or safety of the public water supply but may adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the potable water supply. Materials entering the public water supply through a low hazard cross-connection are pollutants or non-health hazards.

T. “New public water system” or “new PWS” means a public water system permitted after July 1, 2024 as a public water system by the State Water Board. A new public water system includes a public water system receiving a new permit because of a change in ownership.

U. “Noncommunity water system” means a public water system that is not a community water system.

V. “Nontransient noncommunity water system” means a public water system that is not a community water system and that regularly serves at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year.

W. “Premises containment” means protection of a public water system’s distribution system from backflow from a user’s premises through the installation of one or more air gaps or BPAs, installed as close as practical to the user’s service connection, in a manner that isolates the water user’s water supply from the public water system’s distribution system.

X. “Pressure vacuum breaker backsiphonage prevention assembly” or “PVB” means an assembly with an independently-acting internally-loaded check valve and an independently-acting loaded air inlet valve located on the discharge side of the check valve; with test cocks and tightly closing shutoff valves located at each end of the assembly that enable accurate field testing of the assembly. This type of assembly may only be used for protection from backsiphonage and is not to be used to protect from backpressure. See Diagram 4, Appendix C.

Y. “Public water system” or “PWS” has the same meaning as defined in section 116275(h) of the CHSC.

Z. “Recycled Water" is a wastewater which as a result of treatment is suitable for uses other than potable use.

AA. “Reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly” or “RP” means an assembly with two independently acting internally-loaded check valves, with a hydraulically operating mechanically independent differential-pressure relief valve located between the check valves and below the upstream check valve. The assembly shall have shut-off valves located upstream and downstream of the two check-valves, and test cocks to enable accurate field testing of the assembly. See Diagram 5, Appendix C.

BB. “Reduced pressure principle detector backflow prevention assembly” or “RPDA” means a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly that includes a bypass with a water meter and reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly, with the bypass’s water meter accurately registering flow rates up to two gallons per minute and visually showing a registration for all rates of flow. See Diagram 6, Appendix C.

CC. “Reduced pressure principle detector backflow prevention assembly – type II” or “RPDA-II” means a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly that includes a bypass around the second check, with the bypass having a single check valve and a water meter accurately registering flow rates up to two gallons per minute and visually showing a registration for all rates of flow. See Diagram 7, Appendix C.

DD. "Spill-resistant pressure vacuum breaker backsiphonage prevention assembly" or "SVB" means an assembly with an independently-acting internally-loaded check valve and an independently-acting loaded air inlet valve located on the discharge side of the check valve; with shutoff valves at each end and a test cock and bleed/vent port, to enable accurate field testing of the assembly. This type of assembly may only be used for protection from backsiphonage and is not to be used to protect from backpressure. See Diagram 8, Appendix C.

EE. "State Water Board", unless otherwise specified, means the State Water Resources Control Board or the local primacy agency having been delegated the authority to enforce the requirements of the CCCPH by the State Water Resources Control Board.

FF. "Swivel-Ell" means a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly combined with a changeover piping configuration (swivel-ell connection) designed and constructed pursuant to this Chapter. See design and construction criteria, as well as Diagrams 9a and 9b, Appendix C.

GG. "Transient noncommunity water system" means a noncommunity water system that does not regularly serve at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year.

HH. "User premises" means the property under the ownership or control of a water user and is served, or is readily capable of being served, with water via a service connection with a public water system.

II. "User's service connection" means either the point where a water user's piping is connected to a water system or the point in a water system where the approved water supply can be protected from backflow using an air gap or backflow prevention assembly.

JJ. "User Supervisor" means a person designated by a water user to oversee a water use site and responsible for the avoidance of cross-connections.

KK. "Water supplier" means a person who owns or operates a public water system.

LL. "Water user" means a person or entity who is authorized by the PWS to receive water.

SECTION 3: CROSS-CONNECTION PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

A. General Provisions:

1. Unprotected cross-connections with the public water supply are prohibited.

2. Whenever backflow protection has been found necessary, the District will require the water user to install an approved backflow prevention device by and at his expense for continued services or before a new service will be granted.

3. Wherever backflow protection has been found necessary, on a water supply line entering a water user's premises, then any and all water supply lines from the District's mains entering such premises, buildings, or structures shall be protected by an approved backflow prevention device. The type of device to be installed will be in accordance with the requirements of this ordinance.

B. Where Protection is Required and Testing Requirements:

1. All new services connected to the District water system will be required to install, at a minimum, a RP BPA. Other BPA types may be required based on the District's

assessment of the potential hazard(s) at the site. The annual testing requirement of the BPA may be waived by the District based on the District's hazard assessment.

2. Each service connection from the District water system for supplying water to premises having an auxiliary water supply shall be protected against backflow of water from the premises into the public water system unless the auxiliary water supply is accepted as an additional source by the District, and is approved by the public health agency having jurisdiction. Annual testing of the BPA is required.

3. Each service connection from the District water system for supplying water to any premises on which any substance is handled in such fashion as may allow its entry into the water system shall be protected against backflow of the water from the premises into the public system. This shall include the handling of process waters and waters originating from the District water system which have been subjected to deterioration in sanitary quality. Annual testing of the BPA is required.

4. Backflow prevention devices shall be installed on the service connection to any premises having (a) internal cross-connections that cannot be permanently corrected and controlled to the satisfaction of the state or local health department and the District, or (b) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not cross-connections exist. Annual testing of the BPA is required.

5. All services with a fire protection system on the user premise must install at a minimum, a DC BPA device. A high hazard cross-connection fire protection system, including but not limited to fire protection systems that may utilize chemical addition (e.g., wetting agents, foam, anti-freeze, corrosion inhibitor, etc.) or an auxiliary water supply, must have no less than RP protection. The BPA shall be tested annually.

   i. This statutory requirement is for new and existing services connected to a user premise with a fire protection system. Installation of a BPA on existing services must be completed July 1, 2034.

C. Type of Protection Required:

1. Reduced Pressure Principal Backflow Prevention Device (RP) is the minimum is required on all new services within the District. The type of protective device that may be required (listing in an increasing level of protection) includes: Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device (RP), and an Air-gap separation (AG). The water user may choose a higher level of protection than required by the District.

2. The minimum types of backflow protection required to protect the approved water supply, at the user's water connection to premises with varying degrees of hazard are given in Table 1. Situations which are not covered in Table 1 shall be evaluated on a case by case basis and the appropriate backflow protection shall be determined by the District or health agency.

Table 1

TYPE OF BACKFLOW REQUIRED

Degrees of Hazard	Minimum Type of Backflow Prevention
SEWAGE AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES	
Premises where the public water system is used to supplement the reclaimed water supply.	AG
Premises where there are wastewater pumping and/or treatment plants and there is no interconnection with the potable water system. This does not include a single family residence that has a sewage lift pump. A RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the health agency and the District.	AG
Premises where reclaimed water is used and there is no interconnection with the potable water system. A RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the health agency and the District.	AG
Premises where hazardous substances are handled in any manner in which the substances may enter a potable water system. This does not include a single family residence that has a sewage lift pump. A RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the health agency and the District.	AG
Premises where there are irrigation systems into which fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides or any other potentially hazardous or dangerous substances are or could be distributed. A DC may be used in lieu of an RP if approved by the District.	RP
AUXILIARY WATER SUPPLIES	
Premises where there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply which is interconnected with the public water system. A RP or DC may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the health agency and the District.	AG
Premises where there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply and there are no interconnections with the public water system. A DC may be provided in lieu of an RP if approved by the health agency and District.	RP

Degrees of Hazard	Minimum Type of Backflow Prevention
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS	
Premises where the fire system is directly supplied from the public water system and there is an unapproved auxiliary water supply on or to the premises (not interconnected).	RP[(a)]
Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and interconnected with an unapproved auxiliary water supply. A RP may be provided in lieu of an AG if approved by the health agency and District.	AG
Premises where the fire system is supplied from the public water system and where either elevated storage tanks or fire pumps which take suction from the private reservoirs or tanks are used.	RP[(a)]
Premises where entry is restricted so that inspections for cross-connections cannot be made with sufficient short notice to assure that cross-connections do not exist.	RP
Premises where there is a repeated history of cross-connections being established or re-established.	RP
Any commercial premises having auxiliary water supplies swimming pools, storing, or having the potential to store chemicals, or any other potentially hazardous and dangerous substances	RP

Notes:
(a) District's minimum level of protection for BPA.

3. Two or more services supplying water from different street mains to the same building, structure, or premises through which an interstreet main flow may occur, shall have at least a RP on each water service to be located adjacent to and on the property side of the respective meters.

SECTION 4: BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

A. Approved Backflow Prevention Devices:

1. Only backflow prevention assemblies which have been approved by the District shall be acceptable for installation by a water user connected to the PWS. All backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed to the current District requirements and specifications. Also, shall be an approved manufacturer and model recognized and accepted by the District. The District shall be contacted with any and all installations, and the District must approve said installation prior to any work being performed.

2. The District will provide any affected customer, upon request, with a list of approved backflow prevention devices.

B. Backflow Prevention Device Installation:

1. Backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed in accordance with the CCCPH. The location of the assemblies shall be as close as practical to the water user's connection. The District shall have the final authority in determining the location of all backflow prevention assemblies.

   a. Air-Gap Separation (AG): The air-gap separation shall be located on the user's side and as close to the service connection as is practical. All piping from the service connection to the receiving tank shall be above grade and be entirely visible. No water use shall be provided from any point between the service connection and the air-gap separation. The water inlet piping shall terminate a distance of at least two (2) pipe diameters of the supply inlet, but in no case less than one (1) inch above the overflow rim of the receiving tank.

   b. Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Device (RP): The approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention device shall be installed on the user's side of and as close to the service connection as is practical. The device shall be installed a minimum of twelve inches (12") above grade and not more than thirty-six inches (36") above grade measured from the bottom of the device and with a minimum of twelve inches (12") side clearance. The device shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for maintenance and testing. Water supplied from any point between the service connection and the RP device shall be protected in a manner approved by the District. The assembly shall be covered with an insulation bag to prevent damage from freezing and shall be installed so that it is readily accessible for testing and maintenance.

   c. Double Check Valve Assembly (DC): The approved double check valve assembly shall be located as close as practical to the user's connection and shall be installed above grade, if possible, and in a manner where it is readily accessible for testing and maintenance. If a double check valve assembly is put below grade it must be installed in a vault such that there is a minimum of six inches (6") between the bottom of the vault and the bottom of the device, so that the top of the device is no more than a maximum of eight inches (8") below grade, so there is a minimum of six inches of clearance between the side of the device with the test cocks and the side of the vault. Special consideration must be given to double check valve assemblies of the "Y" type. These devices must be installed on their "side" with the test cocks in a vertical position so that either check valve may be removed for service without removing the device. Vaults which do not have an integrated bottom must be placed on a three-inch (3") layer of gravel.

C. Backflow Prevention Device Testing and Maintenance:

1. The owners of any premises on which, or on account of which, backflow prevention devices are installed, shall have the devices tested by a person who has demonstrated their competency in testing these devices to the District. Backflow prevention devices must be tested at least annually and immediately after installation, relocation or repair. The District may require a more frequent testing schedule if it is determined to be necessary. No device shall be placed back in service unless it is

functioning as required. A report in a form acceptable to the District shall be filed with the District each time a device is tested, relocated, or repaired. These devices shall be serviced, overhauled, or replaced whenever they are found to be defective and all costs of testing, repair, and maintenance shall be borne by the water user.

2. The District will supply affected water users with a list of persons acceptable to the District to test backflow prevention devices. Device testers shall be certified by State approved ANSI accredited program. The District will notify affected customers by mail when annual testing of a device is needed and also supply users with the necessary forms which must be filled out each time a device is tested or repaired.

3. Failure to become compliant shall result in termination of the water service.

D. Backflow Prevention Device Removal:

1. Approval must be obtained from the District before a backflow prevention device is removed, relocated, or replaced.

a. Removal: The use of a device may be discontinued and the device removed from service upon presentation of sufficient evidence to the District to verify that a hazard no longer exists or is not likely to be created in the future.

b. Relocation: A device may be relocated following confirmation by the District that the that the relocation will continue to provide the required protection and satisfy installation requirements. A retest will be required following the relocation of the device.

c. Repair: A device may be removed for repair, provided the water use is either discontinued until repair is completed and the device is returned to service, or the service connection is equipped with other backflow protection approved by the District. A retest will be required following the repair of the device.

d. Replacement: A device may be removed and replaced provided the water use is discontinued until the replacement device is installed. All replacement devices must be commensurate with the degree of hazard involved.

SECTION 5: USER SUPERVISOR

At each premises where it is deemed necessary, by the District. A User Supervisor shall be designated by and at the expense of the water user. This User Supervisor shall be responsible for the monitoring of the backflow prevention assemblies and for avoidance of cross-connections. In the event of a high hazard substance or a low hazard substance getting into the PWS due to a cross-connection on the premises, the District shall be promptly notified by the User Supervisor so that appropriate measures may be taken to overcome the incident. The water user shall inform the District of the User Supervisor's identity on an annual basis or whenever they are replaced by another User Supervisor.

SECTION VI: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

A. Cross Connection Surveys:

1. The District shall review all requests for new services to determine if backflow protection is needed. Plans and specifications must be submitted to the District upon

request for review of possible cross-connection hazards as a condition of service for new service connections. If it is determined that a backflow prevention device is necessary to protect the public water system, the required device must be installed before service will be granted.

2. The District may require an on-premise inspection to evaluate cross-connection hazards. The District will transmit a written notice requesting an inspection of his piping system shall be required to install the backflow prevention device the District considers necessary.

3. The District may, at its discretion, require a reinspection for cross-connection hazards of any premise to which it serves water. The District will transmit a written notice requesting an inspection appointment for each affected water user. Any water user who cannot or will not allow an on-premise inspection of his piping system shall be required to install a backflow prevention device located directly after the meter. The type of device shall be determined by the District.

B. Customer Notification – Device Installation:

1. The District will notify the water user of the survey findings, listing the corrective actions to be taken if any are required. A period of 30 days will be given to complete all corrective actions required, including installation of backflow prevention devices.

2. A second notice will be sent to each water user who does not take the required corrective actions prescribed in the first notice within the 30 days period allowed. The second notice will give the water user a two week period to take the required corrective action. If no action is taken within the 2 week period the District may terminate water service to the affected water user until the required corrective actions are taken.

SECTION 7: WATER SERVICE TERMINATION

A. General: When the District encounters water uses that represent a clear and immediate hazard to the potable water supply that cannot be immediately abated, the District shall institute the procedure for discontinuing the District water service.

B. Basis for Termination: Conditions or water uses that create a basis for water service termination shall include, but are not limited to, the following items:

1. Refusal to install a required backflow prevention device,

2. Refusal to test a backflow prevention device,

3. Refusal to repair a faulty backflow prevention device,

4. Refusal to replace a faulty backflow prevention device,

5. Direct or indirect connection between the public water system and a sewer line,

6. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the public water system and a system or equipment containing contaminants,

7. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the public water system and an auxiliary water system,

8. A situation which presents an immediate health hazard to the public water system.

C. Water Service Termination Procedures:

1. For conditions 1, 2, 3, or 4, the District will terminate service to a customer's premise after 2 written notices have been sent specifying the corrective action needed and the time period in which it must be done. If no action is taken within the allowed time period water service may be terminated.

2. For conditions 5, 6, 7, or 8, the District will take the following steps:

a. Make reasonable effort to advise water user of intent to terminate water service;

b. Terminate water supply and lock service valve. The water service will remain inactive until correction of violations has been approved by the District.

SECTION 8: SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The Board hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 9: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance 419-25 of the Meadow Vista County Water District. This Ordinance is intended to supersede all previous Ordinances on matters previously stated. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect as of January 1, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Meadow Vista County Water District at a public hearing, duly called, which was held in the District on December 18, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: Mark Barbier, Derek D'Amour, Shawna Jefferson, James Paone
NOES:
ABSENT: Anthony AhMu

ATTEST: Marvel MacDonald
Marvel MacDonald, Secretary