

Flow Back



Newsletter from the Backflow Group

Issue 12, August 2014



Backflow

WATER NEW ZEALAND | SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The Backflow Group of Water New Zealand are looking to produce a regular newsletter for you, the members – to keep you involved and informed on what is happening in the industry and the activities of the Backflow Group. For more information about the Backflow Group follow this link: <http://www.waternz.org.nz>

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Take Note:

During these colder months please don't forget about taking care of your backflow devices. Like many of us, backflow valves can also feel the cold. In some areas of the country backflow devices can experience near freezing conditions. A wooden box may not always cut it. There is another more reliable way to help eliminate the water freezing inside backflow devices. Please contact your preferred backflow distributor for more information.

Backflow Gone Wrong..



These cleaners tied the hose to the tap with a rubber glove, with the hose sitting in a full bucket around the corner.

Please feel free to send any dodgy installations you want to see featured in Flowback to amy.aldrich@waternz.org.nz.

A Word from the Chair

Following the recent committee elections, I have been appointed as chair for another 1 year. We have many exciting projects underway as previously discussed, and one of the important projects is our upcoming 2015 Conference in Queenstown. We hope to have some great overseas presenters to add an International perspective, and are planning on our best conference to date.

Richard Aitken
Backflow SIG Committee Chair

Review of AS/NZS2845 Standard

As it currently stands there are backflow valves being promoted in Australasia that will not comply with the 2010 AS/NZS2845 specification. The valves of special interest are particular designed large bodied stainless steel valves.

As a result of this a "Notice of Direction" written by the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) has been sent out to the various Watermark Conformity Assessment Bodies addressing this issue.

The ABCB are going through a review process and because of their concerns they are allowing both the 1998 and the 2010 specifications to be referenced for any new product conformity assessments being put forward. Our committee also has their doubts on how we have arrived at this peculiar situation and we are discussing this in detail. We will keep you informed.

This is a priority for the ABCB and is one of their major projects since taking the reins from Standards Australia.

Conference 2015

The 2015 Conference will be held 23rd-24th of April at the Mecure Resort in Queenstown. The committee would like your input into what you would like to see at the conference, please send any suggestions to the backflow SIG Liaison amy.aldrich@waternz.org.nz.

Social Media

The Backflow SIG are now on Facebook and LinkedIn. If you haven't joined these groups already please do so now. The committee looks forward to the discussions the members will create through these channels.



Facebook



LinkedIn

Please note: you will need to be logged in to view the Facebook page.

Californian district takes strong stance against use of Chemigation Valves

The Central Coast Water Quality District in California has recently taken a stance against the use of chemigation valves for fertigation (fertiliser injection) feed by well heads. The code is now written to suggest the use of a conventional testable backflow assembly such as an RPZ for chemigation (pesticide injection) and also fertigation. The change in code has also been submitted to the California State Water Board for consideration to be approved statewide. If adopted by the State of California, it will become approved in other states shortly after. This is a major step in the right direction. Not one taken lightly because for many years the local authorities fought hard to allow the use of chemigation valves. It seems they have now seen sense- hopefully it's not too late.

Do you have any queries? We would love to hear from you!

Post a topic on the Backflow page of the Water New Zealand Forum
<http://forum.waternz.org.nz>

OR

Email the SIG Liaison
 Amy Aldrich
amy.aldrich@waternz.org.nz

2014/2015 Backflow Committee

Recently the Backflow Committee called for nominations of interest to join the committee. This was successful with new members Norm Hiebendaal, and Rob Hill joining the committee for the 2014/15 period. Existing member Aaron Buckley has stood down from his role on the committee. The committee wishes Aaron all the best for the future and thanks him for his recent contributions to the committee.

The Committee are available to assist with all things backflow, find their contact details below. Alternatively contact the Water NZ SIG Liaison Amy Aldrich for assistance: P: 04 495 0894 E: amy.aldrich@waternz.org.nz

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