IMPORTANT NOTICE

The soaring cost of scrap metals is fueling dozens of backflow thefts throughout southern California and Walnut Valley Water District’s (District) service area. Backflow devices are used to prevent potential cross-connections and contamination of the water supply.

Due to this increased levels of thefts, the District would like to encourage our customers to be cautious and report any suspicious activity to the local authorities.

Several ways to prevent thefts include:

- Enclosing the backflow device and valves with a protective cage.
- Painting the device. Paint acts as a deterrent since painted metal is less valuable (do not paint over serial numbers and name plates).
- Camouflaging the device. The use of landscape can make the unit less visible. Just be sure to keep a one-foot clearance around the device.
- Installing a device with less metal. There are approved models that utilize plastic, making them less valuable. Please contact the District to verify approved devices.

Please Note: When installing any protective equipment, it is important that our customers check the District’s specifications to verify that the assembly will remain in compliance. If you have any questions regarding your backflow device, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (909) 595-1268 ext. 312 and ask for Bob Yamaguchi.