

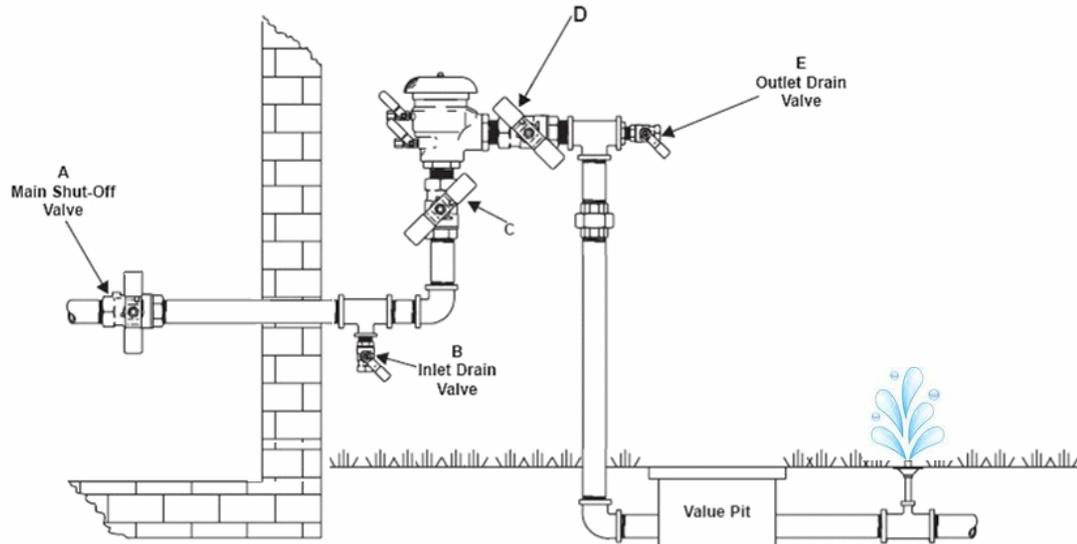
**SPECIFICATIONS FOR  
REPLACEMENT OF EXSISTING AND NEW IRRIGATION  
BACKFLOW ASSEMBLIES**

- 1) A plumbing permit for any replacement or new backflow device installation is required; plumbing permits can be obtained at the building department in City Hall. In addition, a backflow permit application is required for new backflow device installation which can be obtained at the City of Westfield's website under cross connections.
- 2) If an existing pressure vacuum breaker (PVB) fails the State of Massachusetts accepted test method ("holds above 1 psid and opens before 1 psid") the owner is required to replace the device with a new PVB 1 inch in size and under, and may order the PVB assembly themselves.
- 3) The minimum height requirement of 12" above the highest point of piping including risers (if in question) is measured from the top of the PVB backflow device.
- 4) Vacuum breakers (VB) and below grade reduced pressure zone (RPZ) are prohibited. ASSE or USC must be embossed on the valve body of a PVB or RPZ backflow assemblies, no exceptions.
- 5) Inaccessible test ports: typically the backflow device is installed with the test ports facing the structure/dwelling require a repositioning of the backflow device or 45 degree adapters for testing access.
- 6) All supply and distribution risers on RPZ backflow assemblies shall be copper. Outdoor rated detachable support struts similar to Pipeline PS-100s for 1.25 inch RPZ and larger shall be required.
- 8) Double checks (DC) do not meet code under the guidance of CMR 22.22 Table 22-1.8 for use in lawn irrigation, therefore a PVB or RPZ must be installed on the outside of all new residential irrigation sites; existing DC valves installed prior to May 3, 2010 will be grandfathered in on residential sites only.
- 9) Winterization is required to be preformed to the manufactures specification, blowing out the irrigation system must be done on the downstream side of the backflow assembly, so a blow out or outlet connection will be required on the downstream side of the backflow device. **Failure to comply with this method can result in the contamination of the potable water supply with petroleum hydrocarbon from the air stream of the compressor during winterization**
- 10) **All out door isolation valves and test ports are to be positioned at 45 degrees for the winter.**

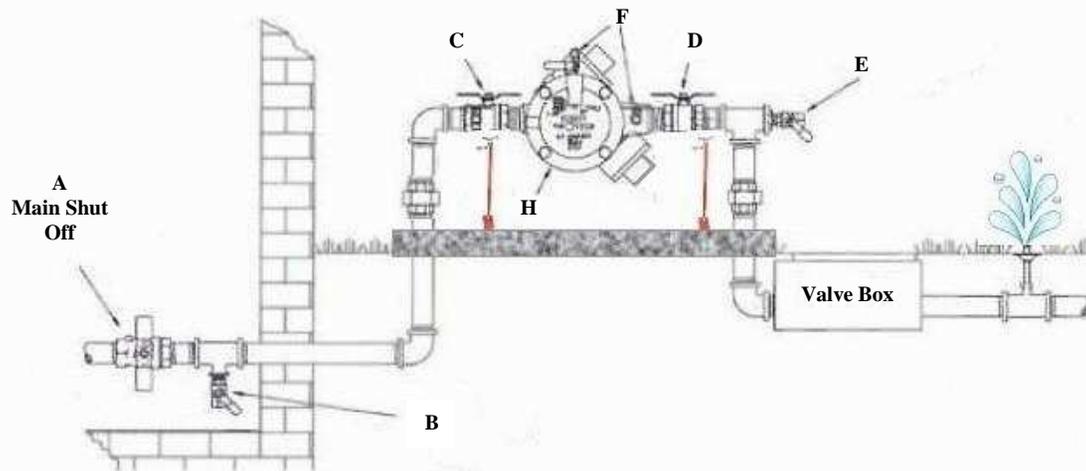
11) Do not install 3/4" threaded house connections on the upstream potable water side of the backflow assembly for winterization. A square drain plug or similar bleeder valve at the lowest accessible exterior point on the supply side of the backflow assembly is acceptable on outdoor systems. Also, when installing or replacing the backflow assembly please plumb the device with **unions** to facilitate the removal and replacement of the backflow device if required in the future.

Repairs require MA licensed plumber  
Replacement requires plumbing permit

**Typical  
PVB  
Backflow  
Assembly**



**Typical  
Outdoor RPZ  
Backflow**



- C, D) isolation valves
- H) Minimum 12" from grade
- F) Test ports
- E) Blow off winterization
- B) Bleeder Valve for winter
- Unions
- Epoxy coated pipe support strut