



March 4, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**Bulletin P- 01-11**

**TO:** All Permit Applicants

**FROM:** Thomas H. Goldsbury, P.E., C.B.O.  
Chief, Building Inspection Division

**RE:** **Backflow Preventers for Irrigation Systems**

**The purpose of this Bulletin is to clarify that the Plumbing Code no longer permits the use of a double check backflow preventer on domestic water service used for irrigation.**

The 2007 Florida Plumbing and Residential Codes state that backflow prevention on irrigation systems shall comply with section 608.16.5 and P2902.5.3 respectively. Those sections state:

“The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker or a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer. A valve shall not be installed downstream from an atmospheric vacuum breaker. Where chemicals are introduced into the system, the potable water supply shall be protected against backflow by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.”

In addition, JEA, the water purveyor, requires the installation of a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer for irrigation applications. A copy of JEA’s Cross Connection Control Policy is available online at [jea.com](http://jea.com) or by calling JEA’s Cross Connection Control voice mail at 904 665-4410.

Xc: Jim Schock