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# Texas Administrative Code

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**TITLE 30**

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**PART 1**

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**CHAPTER 344**

LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION

**SUBCHAPTER E**

BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTIONS

**RULE §344.51**

**Specific Conditions and Cross-Connection Control**

(a) Before any chemical is added to an irrigation system connected to any potable water supply, the irrigation system must be connected through a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly or air gap.

(b) Connection of more than one water source to an irrigation system presents the potential for contamination of the potable water supply if backflow occurs. Therefore, connection of any additional water source to an irrigation system that is connected to the potable water supply can only be done if the irrigation system is connected to the potable water supply through a reduced-pressure principle backflow prevention assembly or an air gap.

(c) Irrigation system components with chemical additives induced by aspiration, injection, or emission system connected to any potable water supply must be connected through a reduced pressure principle backflow device.

(d) If an irrigation system is designed or installed on a property that is served by an on-site sewage facility, as defined in Chapter 285 of this title (relating to On-Site Sewage Facilities), then:

(1) all irrigation piping and valves must meet the separation distances from the On-Site Sewage Facilities system as required for a private water line in §285.91(10) of this title (relating to Minimum Required Separation Distances for On-Site Sewage Facilities);

(2) any connections using a private or public potable water source must be connected to the water source through a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly as defined in §344.50 of this title (relating to Backflow Prevention Methods); and

(3) any water from the irrigation system that is applied to the surface of the area utilized by the On-Site Sewage Facility system must be controlled on a separate irrigation zone or zones so as to allow complete control of any irrigation to that area so that there will not be excess water that would prevent the On-Site Sewage Facilities system from operating effectively.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §344.51 adopted to be effective January 1, 2009, 33 TexReg 5713

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