

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-54

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF VALDOSTA, GEORGIA; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VALDOSTA, GEORGIA CONCERNING CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION; CONTAINING FINDINGS; ADDING A DIVISION 4 TO ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 98 TO BE ENTITLED “CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION”; ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 98-121 PROVIDING A SHORT TITLE; ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 98-122 PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; ADDING A SECTION TO BE NUMBERED 98-123 ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE 2001 EDITION OF THE MANUAL OF CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND LISTING THE SUBJECTS OF THE MANUAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by authority of same, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Valdosta, Georgia finds as follows:

- A. Preserving the integrity of public potable water supplies is essential to public health, safety and welfare; and
- B. Connections to a public potable water supply system which are not sufficiently protected to prevent pollution or contamination from entering the public system through those connections are a potential hazard to public health, safety and welfare.

Section 2. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding a Division 4 to Article II of Chapter 98 section to be located after Division 3 (which currently ends with Section 98-106) and to read as follows:

DIVISION 4. CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Section 3. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered 98-121 which shall read as follows:

Sec. 98-121. Title of Division

This division shall be known and may be cited as the “City of Valdosta Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Ordinance.”

Section 4. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered 98-122 which shall read as follows:

Sec. 98-122. Cross-Connection Control - General Policy

- (a) Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is:
- (1) To protect the public potable water supply of the City of Valdosta from the possibility of contamination or pollution by isolating within the customer's internal distribution system or the customer's private water system such contaminants or pollutants that could backflow into the public water system; and,
 - (2) To promote the elimination or control of existing cross connections, actual or potential, between the customer's in-plant potable water system and non-potable water systems, plumbing fixtures, and industrial piping systems; and,
 - (3) To provide for the maintenance of a continuing program of cross-connection control that will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of all potable water systems.
- (b) Responsibility. The water and sewer director shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to the backflow of contaminants or pollutants through the water service connection.

Section 5. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered 98-123 which shall read as follows:

Sec. 98-123. Definitions

- (a) The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Backflow means the undesirable reversal of flow of water or other substances through a cross-connection and into the piping of a public water system or customer's potable water system. This includes backflow from backsiphonage or backpressure.

Cross-Connection means any physical arrangement whereby a public water supply is connected, directly or indirectly, with any other water supply system, sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, or other device which contains or may contain contaminated water, sewage or other waste, or liquid of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting

contamination to the public water supply as the result of backflow. By-pass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or changeable devices, and other temporary or permanent devices through which or because of which backflow could occur are considered to be cross-connections.

Manual means the manual adopted pursuant to section 98-124.

Other terms defined in the Manual shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Manual.

Section 6. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Valdosta, Georgia, is hereby amended by adding a section to be numbered 98-124 which shall read as follows:

Sec. 98-124. Adoption of Manual of Cross Connection Control

- (a) There is hereby adopted by reference the 2003 edition of the "Cross-Connection Control Manual" as prepared by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (b) The manual contains provisions concerning, without limitation, the following:
 - (1) Introductory comments, a general description of backflow and backflow prevention, allocation of responsibility for the program and definitions.
 - (2) Administrative components including: procedures to review new service connections; procedures to review existing service connections; procedures for keeping cross connection records; procedures for educating the public about cross connection control; and procedures for dealing with backflow complaints and backflow incidents.
 - (3) Backflow prevention assembly applications including provisions concerning: city water connections to other water systems; pumping stations and water loading stations; fire protection customers; residential customers; and commercial/industrial customers.
 - (4) Standards for backflow preventers.
 - (5) Installation of required backflow preventers including provisions concerning: location requirements; bypassing the assembly; backflow preventer positioning; retrofitting old assemblies positioning; possible pressure problems; and freezing conditions.
 - (6) Testing, maintenance and certification of required backflow

preventers including provisions concerning: general requirements; testers' responsibilities and certification requirements; customer responsibilities; notification of noncompliance; show cause hearings for significant non-compliance; emergency discontinuation of service; and judicial review.

- (7) Annual cross-connection control program status report for public water systems.
- (8) Appendices including construction standards.
- (c) One copy of such manual shall be maintained in the office of the Water and Sewer Director and one copy in the office of the Building Official.
- (d) It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any of the provisions of the manual adopted in subsection (a) of this section.

Section 7. Severability Clause: Should any provision or section of this Ordinance be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 8. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 9. This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval by the Mayor, or upon becoming law without such approval.

SO ORDAINED, this 10th day of December, 2009.

Mayor, City of Valdosta

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council