

Backflow Prevention Security

It is important to keep your backflow prevention device secure from possible vandals or metal thief's.

In addition to the cost and nuisance of replacing a stolen backflow device you will be without water until the backflow equipment is replaced, inspected, and certified.

If your equipment is stolen, please contact the **Riverside Police Department at (951) 353-7941** to file a police report.

In order to help prosecute thieves there must be a victim identified with a report on file. Each valve has a unique identification number, which is recorded with Riverside Public Utilities' Water Operations staff. If you need that number for the police report, please contact our office at (951) 351-6320 or (951) 351-6282.

There are ways to help prevent theft of backflow prevention equipment and to assure an un-disrupted supply of water to your building or home:

Paint - Simply painting your valve not only camouflages it, but the metals are no longer considered clean scrap and are of less value to a thief.

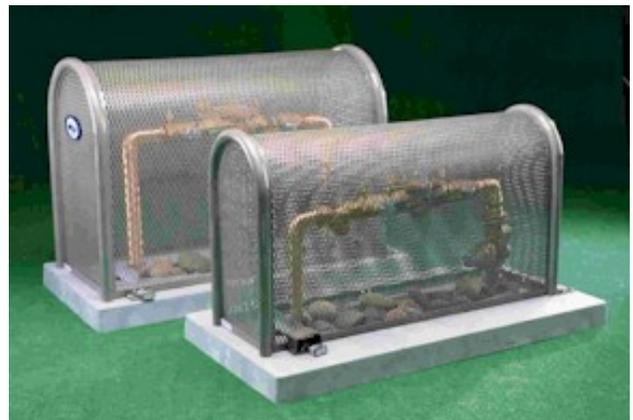
Planting - Using shrubs in landscaping is a very effective way of hiding a valve from plain sight, not only for theft prevention but for aesthetic reasons as well. Before planting please refer to the City of Riverside Public Utilities Standard Drawing CWD-616 for side clearance requirements.

Enclosures - Backflow Equipment Enclosures (cages) or other backflow security devices (like those listed below) are strongly recommended. An enclosure will not only reduce the risk of theft, but will also help to protect valves from being damaged by passerby's or tampered with. Most plumbing or backflow testing companies are capable of installing security devices.

Before installing please refer to the City of Riverside Public Utilities Standard Drawing CWD-616 for side clearance requirements.

Backflow Equipment Enclosures

Backflow equipment enclosures are designed to protect and secure backflow assemblies. Most enclosures offer lock shields that safeguard unit from bolt cutters; this is a very important feature. Enclosure should be powder coated or made of stainless steel for durability, longevity & low maintenance. Enclosure must provide complete access for testing and service work on assembly.



There should not be any sharp edges or corners that could injure a person coming into close contact of assembly. A concrete pad is required to support enclosure and to prevent weeds, or grass from growing into assembly. Check enclosure manufactures specification for thickness of concrete pad.

Most Plumbing or Backflow Testing Company's are capable of providing and installing backflow equipment enclosures.

Alternative Backflow Equipment Security

There are also alternative methods to backflow equipment security as shown in these photos. This particular product combines a telescoping arm that attaches to the backflow valve which is then anchored below grade with a concrete footing.



If you have any questions regarding backflow equipment security, please contact our office 951-351-6320/6282.