



**CITY OF BOULDER
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2024

AGENDA TITLE

Second reading and consideration of a motion to adopt Ordinance 8674 amending Section 4-20-23, “Water Permit Fees,” Chapter 11-1, “Water Utility,” and Chapter 11-2, “Wastewater Utility,” B.R.C. 1981, updating water permit fees and clarifying enforcement provisions under the Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program to protect the drinking water system and public health; and setting forth related details

PRESENTERS

Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, City Manager
Leila Behnampour, Assistant City Attorney III
Joe Taddeucci, Director of Utilities
Meghan Wilson Outcalt, Water Quality Senior Manager
Kate Dunlap, Drinking Water Quality Manager
Michael Parrish, Water Quality Compliance Program Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is the introduction and first reading of Proposed Ordinance 8674, **Attachment A**. This proposed ordinance makes code changes related to the city’s Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program. The City of Boulder is committed to providing safe, high-quality drinking water for the community, including protecting drinking water from backflow events. Backflow is the reverse flow from a customer’s water system into the city’s water distribution system. Backflow is a public health risk and is prevented by backflow prevention assemblies installed on water service lines or plumbing fixtures. State regulations and Boulder Revised Code require most non-single-family water connections to have

backflow prevention assemblies that are owned and maintained by the property owner. Although in most cases the city does not own the assemblies, the city is responsible for enforcing customer compliance with all state and city regulations related to assembly installation, maintenance and testing.

State backflow regulations are strict, and the city spends considerable resources to protect drinking water for all customers and avoid receiving violations from the state, which results in the city having to notify all water customers of the violation in writing and potential loss of customer confidence and trust in the city’s drinking water. Backflow program staff spend the majority of their time tracking, following up with, and enforcing on a relatively small percentage of non-compliant customers. Currently, the primary enforcement tool available is water shutoff. To ensure safe drinking water, support customer compliance with backflow regulations, and reduce time spent on enforcement, staff are proposing new fees and penalties for non-compliance (see Table 1), which are consistent with other Front Range water providers and with other city enforcement programs. Water service shut-off will remain available as an enforcement tool, and these code changes allow for more flexibility in enforcement options.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Suggested Motion Language:

Staff requests council consideration of this matter and action in the form of the following motion:

Motion to adopt Ordinance 8674 amending Section 4-20-23, “Water Permit Fees,” Chapter 11-1, “Water Utility,” and Chapter 11-2, “Wastewater Utility,” B.R.C. 1981, updating water permit fees and clarifying enforcement provisions under the Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program to protect the drinking water system and public health; and setting forth related details

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND IMPACTS

- **Economic** – Property owners are already required to install, maintain and test backflow prevent assemblies per state regulations and city code; the costs associated with these requirements will not change. Staff will continue to notify property owners, managers and tenants of requirements and how to avoid fees and penalties by complying with regulatory requirements on time. With additional enforcement tools, staff time spent on enforcement is expected to decrease. These efficiencies will allow for broader application of water quality protection that is a better use of rate-payer funds.
- **Environmental** – Backflow prevention protects drinking water quality from contamination.

- **Social** – Staff used the Racial Equity Instrument to assess the impacts of these changes, which reaffirmed the benefits of clean drinking water for the entire community and also highlighted the need to continue to use enforcement discretion if there are specific barriers to understanding or implementing requirements, such as language barriers or financial constraints.

OTHER IMPACTS

- **Fiscal** – No new funding or resources required. This is part of staffs’ current work plan.
- **Staff time** –With these changes, less staff time should be spent on enforcement, allowing for more proactive water quality protection and better use of rate-payer funds.

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM COUNCIL AGENDA COMMITTEE

None.

BOARD AND COMMISSION FEEDBACK

Staff brought this item to the Water Resources Advisory Board on October 21, 2024, and received positive feedback on the proposed changes.

PUBLIC FEEDBACK

None to date. The [backflow prevention program website](#) has been updated to include information on the proposed code changes, and staff have conducted targeted outreach to property managers and backflow testing companies since late September 2024.

BACKGROUND

Under state drinking water regulations ([Regulation 11.39](#)) and city code ([Section 11-1-25, B.R.C. 1981](#)), backflow prevention assemblies are required on most non-single family residential water connections and all commercial, industrial, fireline, and metered irrigation water connections. Property owners who have backflow assemblies play an important role in protecting drinking water and public health for the community. All assemblies must be tested annually by a certified backflow technician hired by the property owner. To ensure compliance, city water quality staff track the annual testing, repairs and installations of about 7,800 backflow prevention assemblies; conduct hundreds of property and backflow assembly surveys each year; conduct extensive proactive customer outreach; and enforce on properties that are not compliant with backflow regulations.

State backflow regulations have increased significantly in recent years. Since 2022, at least 90% of all backflow prevention assemblies must be tested annually; any assembly repairs or new installations must be completed within 120 days (unless staff approve an extension); and more than 95% of properties must be surveyed on a rolling basis. If any of these requirements are not

met—for even one assembly—the city is in violation of state drinking water regulations and must notify all water customers of the violation in writing.

Despite overall programmatic improvements since 2021—including better data collection and reporting, an increase in staffing levels and an overall increase in assemblies tested annually—the city has received four violations for backflow noncompliance over the past several years. To ensure consistent success in meeting compliance targets, staff have identified a need to expand the enforcement tools available to more effectively address the relatively small percentage of non-compliant customers.

ANALYSIS

Currently, the city’s primary enforcement mechanism for backflow non-compliance is water shut off. Non-compliant customers make up a small portion of the overall number of customers. Because of the public health risks and financial impacts of shutting off water to large residential units and commercial buildings, staff prioritize outreach, education, and compliance assistance before considering water shut off.¹ Although this approach aligns with the city’s customer service values, it can put the city at risk of a violation and strain resources that could otherwise be put toward overall program improvements.

To better ensure drinking water protection and support customer compliance with backflow regulations, staff are proposing new fees and penalties for non-compliance (see Table 1), which are consistent with other Front Range water providers and with other city enforcement programs. The goal of these changes is to reduce the number of touchpoints with customers by providing clearer guidelines and more concrete incentives to meet requirements before enforcement starts. Staff will also have better leverage with the relatively small number of customers who routinely wait for water shut-off notices (hangtags) to act and who fail to meet mutually agreed-upon compliance schedules. Customers can avoid fees and fines by meeting deadlines or, if there are delays in coming into compliance, actively working with staff and showing progress toward resolution. Staff are also drafting a City Manager Rule, **Attachment B**, that provides new deadlines for irrigation assemblies to ensure testing occurs prior to winterization.

¹ Of the more than 1,600 hangtags hung in 2023 and 2024, thirteen occupied domestic water shut offs have taken place (most of which were only for a couple of hours).

Table 1 - Current vs. proposed fees and penalties for backflow non-compliance

Staff Action	Current Fee	New Fee/Penalty
Reminder postcard (for testing) (sent the month the test is due)	\$0	\$0
Past-due postcard (for testing) (sent the month after a test is due)	\$0	\$0
Notice of Violation (NOV) letter (for unaddressed failed tests or no assembly/needs install)	\$0	\$0
Hangtag notifying of potential water shut off (if no response to past-due postcard <u>OR</u> no response to NOV letter)	\$0	\$58 fee
Water shut off (10 days after hangtag; can be avoided if customer provides a schedule; staff also call or email to attempt to reach customers if no response to hangtag)	\$103 fee	\$103 fee
2nd Hangtag (Schedule agreed upon, but not followed through on, requiring new hangtag)	\$0	\$58 fee for hangtag; <u>and either</u> \$250 penalty for testing <u>OR</u> \$650 penalty for repair/install
3rd (and subsequent) Hangtag (Another schedule made, but still not kept, requiring new hangtag)	\$0	\$58 fee for hangtag; <u>and either:</u> \$650 penalty for testing <u>OR</u> \$1500 penalty for repair/install

For a flowchart of the outreach and enforcement process, please see **Attachment C**.

NEXT STEPS

If Proposed Ordinance 8674 is adopted, staff will update customer outreach materials, including annual testing reminder postcards, notices of violation, and hangtags, to clearly communicate the new fees and penalties and how customers can avoid extra costs by meeting compliance deadlines.

If adopted as scheduled, code changes and the draft City Manager Rule will go into effect in January 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

- A – Proposed Ordinance 8674
- B – Draft City Manager Rule
- C – Outreach and Enforcement Process Flowchart

ORDINANCE 8674

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-20-23, "WATER PERMIT FEES," CHAPTER 11-1, "WATER UTILITY," AND CHAPTER 11-2, "WASTEWATER UTILITY," B.R.C. 1981, UPDATING WATER PERMIT FEES AND CLARIFYING ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS UNDER THE BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM TO PROTECT THE DRINKING WATER SYSTEM AND PUBLIC HEALTH; AND SETTING FORTH RELATED DETAILS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO:

Section 1. Section 4-20-23, "Water Permit Fees," B.R.C. 1981, is amended to read as follows:

An applicant for a water permit under Sections 11-1-14, "Permit to Make Water Main Connections," 11-1-15, "Out of City Water Service," or 11-1-16, "Permit to Sell Water," B.R.C. 1981, or for water meter installation under Section 11-1-36, "Location and Installation of Meters; Maintenance of Access to Meters," B.R.C. 1981, or for testing or inspection of backflow prevention assemblies under Section 11-1-25, "~~Duty to Maintain~~ Backflow Prevention Assembly and ~~Prevent~~ Cross-Connection Control," B.R.C. 1981, and for inspection for cross-connections under Section 11-1-25, "~~Duty to Maintain~~ Backflow Prevention Assembly and ~~Prevention~~ Cross-Connection Control," B.R.C. 1981, shall pay the following fees:

(a) Permit fee (stub, connection, enlargement, renewal, abandonment):

- (1) Water residential....\$127
- (2) Water nonresidential....169
- (3) Water private property repair....42
- (4) Irrigation residential....127
- (5) Irrigation nonresidential....169
- (6) Fire line residential....127
- (7) Fire line nonresidential....169
- (8) Main extension....326

...

(g) ~~Tests and inspections for b~~Backflow prevention assemblies program:

- (1) To test ~~or inspect~~ first backflow prevention assembly.....\$200
- (2) Each additional assembly test at same location....103
- (3) For ~~cross-connection inspection~~ backflow prevention survey first hour...200

(4) For each additional hour conducting backflow prevention survey at same location....103

(5) To deliver water service termination notice for backflow violation....58

Section 2. Chapter 11-1, “Water Utility,” B.R.C. 1981, is amended to read as follows:

...

11-1-2. - Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter and Chapter 11-2, “Wastewater Utility,” B.R.C. 1981, and the related fees in Chapter 4-20, “Fees,” B.R.C. 1981, the following words have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Average Winter Consumption means the average number of gallons of water use per month reflected on a user’s water bill for the period covering the most recent consecutive months of December, January, February and March. For accounts registering no water use in one or more of the four monthly billing periods, an average shall be established using those months in which there was usage, historical use records or other available data.

...

Backflow means the reverse flow of water, fluid, or gas caused by back pressure or back siphonage.

Backflow prevention assembly means any mechanical assembly installed at a water service line or at a plumbing fixture to prevent a backflow contamination event, provided that the mechanical assembly is appropriate for the identified contaminant at the cross-connection, is an in-line field-testable assembly, and is consistent with requirements of the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards and/or approved by the city manager.

Backflow prevention method means any method and/or non-testable device installed at a water service line or at a plumbing fixture to prevent a backflow contamination event, provided that the method or non-testable device is appropriate for the identified contaminant at the cross-connection.

Backflow prevention survey means a comprehensive inspection of new and existing potable water systems, fire line systems, irrigation systems, fixtures, and appliances, to determine the existence of actual or potential cross-connections, and to ensure that all actual or potential cross-connections are adequately protected by an appropriate backflow prevention assembly or method.

...

Cross-connection means any connection or arrangement, physical or otherwise, between a potable water system and any plumbing fixture or any tank, receptor, equipment, or device, through which it may be possible for contaminated water or other substances to enter into any part of such potable water system under any condition.

Developer means any person who participates in any manner in the development of land.

1 ...

2 **11-1-4. - Water User Agrees to the Rules of the Water Utility; ~~Penalty for Breach.~~**

3 (a) No person may be served with water from the water utility unless such person agrees to
4 abide by all provisions of this code, all applicable ordinances of the city and all the rules
and regulations of the city pertaining to the water utility.

5 ~~(b) If any water user fails to pay the charges for water when due or fails to comply with any
6 provision of this code, any applicable ordinance of the city or regulations issued thereunder,
or uses water for a purpose not authorized, the city may discontinue water service until the
7 water user has paid the required charges or is in compliance with all requirements of this
8 code, any ordinance of the city or regulations issued thereunder. But the water utility may
not discontinue water service until it has afforded a water user an opportunity for a hearing
under the procedures prescribed by chapter 1-3, "Quasi-Judicial Hearings," B.R.C. 1981.~~

9 (be) No person may be served with water from the water utility unless such person consents to
10 inclusion of property connected to the City water utility in the Northern Colorado Water
Conservancy District and the Municipal Subdistrict thereof.

11 ...

12 **11-1-25. - ~~Duty to Maintain Backflow Prevention Assembly and Prevent Cross-Connection~~
Control.**

13 (a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to protect public health and safety by protecting the
14 city water system from contamination or pollution due to cross-connections, and to develop
a program for cross-connection control.

15 (b) Scope and Application. No person shall violate any provision of this section or the City of
16 Boulder Design and Construction Standards. No person shall fail to comply with all
regulations promulgated by the city manager for the implementation of this chapter.

17 (c) Property owner duty to maintain backflow prevention assembly and prevent cross-
connections and backflow events.

18 (1a) No owner of any property connected to the water utility shall allow any cross-
19 connection to the water utility, unless there is provided an approved backflow
prevention assembly commensurate to the potential hazard. No person working on a
20 water line connected to the water utility shall make a cross-connection, unless there is
provided an approved backflow prevention assembly commensurate to the potential
21 hazard. ~~No person shall fail to comply with all regulations promulgated by the city
manager for the implementation of this chapter.~~

22 (2) No owner of any property that is required to have a backflow prevention assembly
23 shall fail to submit to the city an annual backflow test report pursuant to the deadlines
set forth in city manager regulations. If a property owner does not submit the
24 backflow test report, in addition to other remedies, the city manager may complete a
backflow test for a property and assess a backflow test fee. Such fee shall be a direct
25 charge on the utility bill for the premises subject to this section for the recovery of
costs related to the administration of this section. The charges for such services are

1 prescribed in Section 4-20-23, "Water Permit Fees," B.R.C. 1981.

2 (3) No owner of any property that is required to have a backflow prevention assembly
 3 shall fail to notify the city of a failed backflow test pursuant to the deadlines set forth
 4 in city manager regulations. In the event of a failed test, no person shall fail to repair,
 5 replace, and retest the backflow prevention assembly pursuant to the deadlines set
 6 forth in city manager regulations.

7 (4b) No person shall tamper with, modify or in any way damage any backflow prevention
 8 assembly.

9 (de) Prohibited Backflow Practices. No person shall manufacture, install, maintain or sell a
 10 backflow prevention assembly that does not meet the requirements of section 5.11 of the
 11 City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards.

12 (ed) Surveys and Fees. If an inspection backflow prevention survey is requested by an owner, or
 13 required by this section, or deemed necessary by the city manager, a backflow prevention
 14 survey assembly testing or inspection fee or a cross-connection control inspection fee shall
 15 be assessed. Such fee shall be a direct charge to owners or lessees of on the utility bill for the
 16 premises subject to this section for the recovery of costs related to the administration of this
 17 section and to the inspection and testing of such assemblies performed by the City. The
 18 charges for such services are prescribed in sSection 4-20-23, "Water Permit Fees," B.R.C.
 19 1981.

20 (f) Inspections Authorized. In order to ensure compliance with the requirements of this chapter,
 21 the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards, or any approval granted under this
 22 chapter, or action taken to remedy any violation of such requirements or approval, the city
 23 manager has the authority, subject to the provisions and search warrant requirements in
 24 Section 2-6-3, "Creation, Jurisdiction, and Powers of the Municipal Court," B.R.C. 1981, to
 25 inspect any property, structure, or improvement.

(g) Administrative Procedures and Remedies.

1 (1) Notice of Violation. When the city manager finds that any person has violated or is
 2 violating any provision of this chapter, or any approval granted under this chapter, or
 3 the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards, the city manager may serve
 4 upon such person a written notice stating the nature of the violation and an
 5 opportunity for a hearing under the procedures prescribed by Chapter 1-3, "Quasi-
 6 Judicial Hearings," B.R.C. 1981. The notice may provide a reasonable time to cure
 7 the violation and may require the submission of a written plan for the correction and
 8 prevention thereof subject to approval by the city manager. Submission of the plan
 9 and completion of any related actions shall not relieve the person of any violations of
 10 this section occurring before or after receipt of the notice or prevent the city manager
 11 from taking any other enforcement action authorized under this section and chapter.

12 (A) If the person fails to correct the violation as required by the notice, the city
 13 manager may take any one or more of the following actions to remedy the
 14 violation:

15 (i) For an uncontrolled cross-connection or for failure to repair, replace, and
 16 retest after a failed backflow test:

1 a. The city manager may shut off water pursuant to Section 11-1-45,
2 “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C. 1981. The city
3 manager may hold a threatened shut off in abeyance if the owner
4 presents and implements a plan approved by the city manager to
5 prevent further violations; and

6 b. If the owner does not follow the plan as described in subsection a.,
7 above, the city manager may shut off water pursuant to Section 11-1-
8 45, “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C. 1981, and
9 issue a \$650 civil penalty that is due, payable, and collectable
10 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and will appear on the next
11 regular water bill. The city manager may hold the second threatened
12 shut off in abeyance if the owner presents and implements a revised
13 plan approved by the city manager to prevent further violations; and

14 c. If the owner does not follow the revised plan as described in
15 subsection b. above, the city manager may shut off water pursuant to
16 Section 11-1-45, “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C.
17 1981, and issue a \$1500 civil penalty that is due, payable, and
18 collectable pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and will appear
19 on the next regular water bill. The city manager may issue an
20 additional civil penalty of \$1500 for each subsequent failure to
21 follow a revised and approved compliance plan for the violation, and
22 that is due, payable, and collectable pursuant to the provisions of this
23 chapter, and will appear on the next regular water bill.

24 (ii) For failure to submit an annual backflow test:

25 a. The city manager may shut off water pursuant to Section 11-1-45,
 “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C. 1981. The city
 manager may hold a threatened shut off in abeyance if the owner
 presents and implements a plan approved by the city manager to
 prevent further violations; and

b. If the owner does not follow the plan as described in subsection a.,
 above, the city manager may shut off water pursuant to Section 11-1-
 45, “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C. 1981, and
 issue a \$250 civil penalty that is due, payable, and collectable
 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and will appear on the next
 regular water bill. The city manager may hold the second threatened
 shut off in abeyance if the owner presents and implements a revised
 plan approved by the city manager to prevent further violations; and

c. If the owner does not follow the revised plan as described in
 subsection b., above, the city manager may shut off water pursuant
 to Section 11-1-45, “Water to Be Shut Off for Failure to Pay,”

B.R.C. 1981, and issue a \$650 civil penalty that is due, payable, and collectable pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and will appear on the next regular water bill. The city manager may issue an additional civil penalty of \$650 for each subsequent failure to follow a revised and approved compliance plan for the violation, and that is due, payable, and collectable pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, and will appear on the next regular water bill.

(2) Administrative Charges. To cover the costs of investigative inspections and staff time to ascertain compliance with or violations of this section, the city manager may assess administrative charges on the utility bill. The charges for such services are prescribed in Section 4-20-23, "Water Permit Fees," B.R.C. 1981.

(3) Other Remedies. The city attorney may maintain an action for damages, declaratory relief, specific performance, injunction, or any other appropriate relief in the District Court in and for the County of Boulder for any violation of any provision of this section or any approval granted under this section.

...
11-1-60. - Violations.

(a) No person shall violate a provision of this chapter or the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards, which has the same force and effect as though fully set forth in the Boulder Revised Code 1981.

(b) If any water user fails to pay the charges for water when due or fails to comply with any provision of this chapter, any applicable ordinance of the city or regulations issued thereunder, or uses water for a purpose not authorized, the city may discontinue water service pursuant to 11-1-45, "Water to Be Shut off for Failure to Pay," B.R.C. 1981, until the water user has paid the required charges or is in compliance with all requirements of this chapter, any ordinance of the city or regulations issued thereunder. The water utility may not discontinue water service until it has afforded a water user an opportunity for a hearing under the procedures prescribed by Chapter 1-3, "Quasi-Judicial Hearings," B.R.C. 1981.

(c) Criminal Penalties. Violations of this chapter and the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards are punishable as provided in Section 5-2-4, "General Penalties," B.R.C. 1981.

Section 3. Chapter 11-2, "Wastewater Utility," B.R.C. 1981, is amended to read as follows:

...

1 **11-2-40. - Violations.**

2 (a) No person shall violate a provision of this chapter or the City of Boulder Design and
3 Construction Standards, which has the same force and effect as though fully set forth in the
4 Boulder Revised Code 1981.

5 (b) If any water user fails to pay the charges for water when due or fails to comply with any
6 provision of this chapter, any applicable ordinance of the city or regulations issued
7 thereunder, or uses water for a purpose not authorized, the city may discontinue water
8 service pursuant to 11-1-45, “Water to Be Shut off for Failure to Pay,” B.R.C. 1981, until
9 the water user has paid the required charges or is in compliance with all requirements of this
10 chapter, any ordinance of the city or regulations issued thereunder. The water utility may not
11 discontinue water service until it has afforded a water user an opportunity for a hearing
12 under the procedures prescribed by Chapter 1-3, “Quasi-Judicial Hearings,” B.R.C. 1981.

13 (c) Criminal Penalties. Violations of this chapter and the City of Boulder Design and
14 Construction Standards are punishable as provided in Section 5-2-4, “General Penalties,”
15 B.R.C. 1981.

16 Section 4. This Ordinance is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of
17 the residents of the city and covers matters of local concern.

18 Section 5. The City Council deems it appropriate that this Ordinance be published by title
19 only and orders that copies of this Ordinance be made available in the office of the city clerk for
20 public inspection and acquisition.
21
22
23
24
25

1 INTRODUCTION, READ ON FIRST READING, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED BY

2 TITLE ONLY this 21st day of November 2024.

4
5 _____
6 Aaron Brockett,
7 Mayor

8 Attest:

9 _____
10 City Clerk

11 READ ON SECOND READING, PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of December
12 2024.

13 _____
14 Aaron Brockett,
15 Mayor

16 Attest:

17 _____
18 City Clerk

STANDARD (NON-EMERGENCY) REGULATION/RULE

[do not remove space – for Clerk label]

<p>RULE RELATED TO ENFORCEMENT OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONTROL PROGRAM</p>

BRC Section that is the subject of this Rule: **Chapter 11-1-25, “Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control,” B.R.C. 1981.**

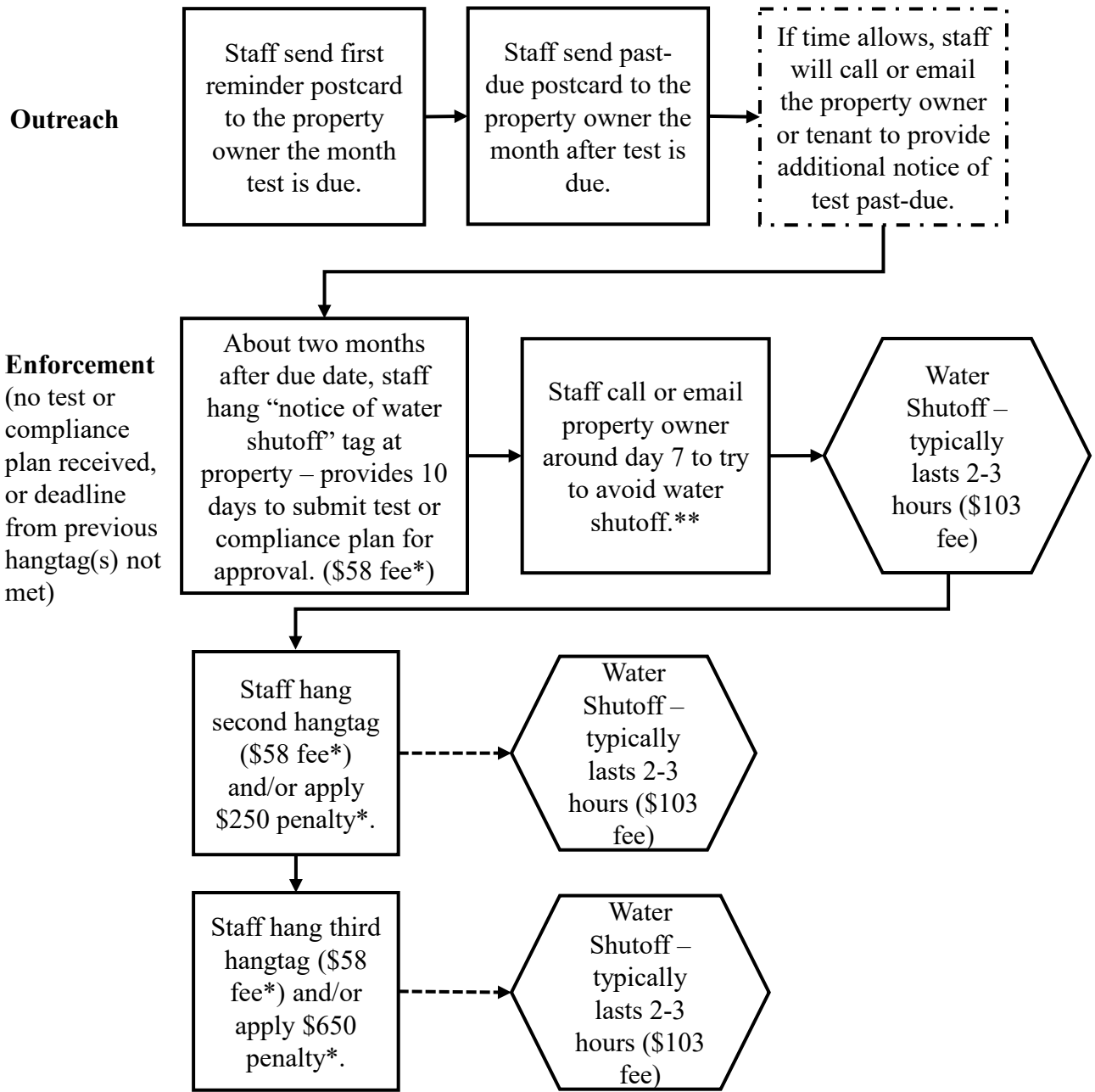
A. CONTACT INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION. It is the responsibility of the owner of a property served by the water utility to provide contact information for themselves or the owner’s agent to the city for backflow communications, including name, mailing address, email address, and phone number.

B. BACKFLOW PREVENTION TESTING

1. Deadlines for submittal to the city of an annual backflow test report shall be as follows:
 - a. Irrigation backflow assemblies: One year from the previous test date, or by August 1, whichever is earlier.
 - b. Domestic and fire backflow assemblies: one year from previous test date.
2. Notification to the city of a failed backflow prevention assembly test must occur within twenty-four (24) hours of testing.
3. All backflow test reports must be submitted to the city manager within ten (10) days of testing.
4. If the city manager suspects or has reason to think that a fraudulent test report has been submitted, the associated portal account will be locked and the person who submitted the fraudulent report will be barred from submitting additional tests until the issue is resolved.

C. To the extent only of any conflict, this Rule repeals any conflicting Rules or parts of Rules.

Backflow Annual Testing Outreach and Enforcement Process with Proposed Fees and Penalties



*Indicates new proposed fee or penalty.

**Staff reach out to contacts on the account prior to water shut-off for domestic water service (water used for drinking, cooking, etc.). Due to high volume and limited staff time, metered irrigation may be shut off without staff attempting to call or email the property owner after the hang tag.