

Millersburg Area Authority

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
101 WEST STREET
MILLERSBURG, PA 17061
Telephone: (717) 692-4711

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Property Owner,

If you're receiving this letter, we will be replacing water meters in your area this year. This is a system-wide replacement of all residential meters. The meter replacement program is mandatory, as the existing meters have reached the end of their useful life.

During the replacement of the water meter, a backflow device will be provided and installed by the Water Authority at no cost to you. The backflow device will prevent the backflow of water from your property into the public water system. The Water Authority is installing these backflow devices to comply with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations.

Some hot water systems are incorrectly designed so that they allow pressure to build up. The increase in pressure is a result of expansion of the water when it is heated. The pressure is then released back through the public water system. If your plumbing system is of such a type, the backflow device we will install will not permit the pressure to be relieved back through the public water system. As a result, the pressure relief valve on your hot water tank may open briefly.

Should the pressure relief valve on your hot water heater fail and your plumbing does not accept the excess pressure, it is possible that the pressure will be relieved through the weakest point in your system. The pressure could be relieved through the hot water heater itself, through worn valves or weak pipe joints.

Properties with incoming water pressures in excess of 80 psi and with gas or oil fired water heaters have the most potential for problems.

If your water system is as described above, two preventative measures can be made by you before the meter and backflow device are installed. One is to have an expansion tank installed on the cold water line before the hot water heater, and second, you may wish to reduce the pressure coming into your property by installing a pressure reducing valve on the service line where it enters your property. Your plumber may recommend one or both measures to correct or to prevent the hot water expansion and resultant pressure. (Please see reverse side of this paper showing the proper installation of these devices). Your cooperation with this DEP mandated installation is greatly appreciated.

More information can be found on our website at www.millersburgwater.com.

Best Regards,

Nick McCarron, Manager
Millersburg Area Authority