



**WINDSOR  
UTILITIES  
COMMISSION**



## **BY-LAW 88: FIRE HYDRANT**

**OUR SYSTEM DELIVERS HIGH QUALITY WATER TO HOMES, INDUSTRIES, BUSINESSES, AND HYDRANTS WHILE PREVENTING CONTAMINATION.**

The Windsor Utilities Commission controls, manages, and maintains the water works distribution system in the City of Windsor. The system is made up of pipes, storage tanks, pumping stations, valves, meters and hydrants. Hydrants are installed for the primary purpose of fighting fires, and to allow for periodic distribution system flushing to aid in maintaining water quality. In an effort to protect the quantity and quality of water supplied through the system, any unauthorized use of fire hydrants is strictly prohibited.

**UNAUTHORIZED USE ALSO HAS THE POTENTIAL OF CONTAMINATING THE WATER SUPPLY BY ALLOWING BACKFLOW.**

Public vigilance is necessary to protect our water supply. Authorized WUC personnel and members of the fire department are the only persons permitted to operate the fire hydrants.

**BY-LAW 88 REGULATES THE USE OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED AND PRIVATELY OWNED FIRE HYDRANTS.**

The purpose of this by-law is to:

- prevent contamination to the water system;
- limit access to hydrants to authorized persons only; and
- ensure annual maintenance to private hydrants.

### **MUNICIPAL & PRIVATELY-OWNED FIRE HYDRANT ANNUAL INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS**

**By-Law 88 requires that inspection reports must be prepared annually for all municipal and privately owned fire hydrants by a qualified inspector.**

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure all Privately Owned Fire Hydrants are installed and maintained according to:

- The Fire Code;
- The Building Code Act; and
- The National Fire Protection Act (NFPA) – NFPA 24 – Installation of Private Fire Service

### **FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTION REPORTS**

**Every owner of property on which a private fire hydrant is installed must ensure that all annual inspection reports for Privately Owned Fire Hydrants are submitted to:**

Windsor Utilities Commission  
4545 Rhodes Drive, P.O. Box 1625, Stn. "A"  
Windsor, Ontario N8W 5T1  
Attention: Mr. Norbert Poggio, P. Eng.

**Owners of Private Hydrants are required to maintain the hydrants as per Sections 13 and 14 of By-Law 88.**



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**For further information on By-Law 88 visit [www.wuc.on.ca](http://www.wuc.on.ca)  
or call 519-255-2727 Option 3.**



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## BY-LAW 90: CROSS CONNECTION AND BACK-FLOW PREVENTION

In order to ensure the supply of safe, clean drinking water to its users, Windsor Utilities Commission has chosen to take a pro-active approach with respect to backflow prevention. This has resulted in the establishment of a Backflow Prevention Program designed to:

- identify any and all cross-connections where potential contamination of potable water may occur;
- maintain a database of licensed backflow device testers; and
- maintain a database of water users who have backflow prevention devices.

### Definitions

- **“Backflow”** means the flowing back or reversal of, the normal direction of flow of water;
- **“Backflow Prevention Device”** means a device that prevents backflow and includes a reduced pressure principle assembly, dual check valve, and the like;
- **“Cross-connection”** means any actual or potential connection between a potable water supply or system and any source of pollution or contamination, and includes any by-pass, jumper connection, removable section of pipe, swivel or changeover device, or any other temporary connecting arrangement through which backflow may occur.



### Background

Backflow occurs as a result of either back-siphonage, back-pressure or both. Back-siphonage is a reversal of normal water flow caused by a negative pressure in the water line. Back-siphonage happens when there is a reduction in, or stoppage of, the main water supply pressure due to nearby fire fighting, repairs or breaks in watermains. Backflow can occur in any water supply line including individual residential or commercial units.

Backflow prevention ensures that potable water is protected against the entry of contaminants, pollutants, infectious agents or other materials or substances. This is achieved through the installation of an appropriate backflow prevention device at the water connection where this potential exists. To protect Windsor’s water distribution system, the Windsor Utilities Commission requires that a premise-isolating backflow prevention device be installed at or near the main water meter.

**ACCORDING TO BY-LAW 90 LEGISLATION, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO INSTALL A BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE AT YOUR SITE.**

Call 519-255-2727 Option 3 for further details or visit [www.wuc.on.ca](http://www.wuc.on.ca).



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