November 3, 2016   (Updated July 26, 2022)

New Water Sprinkler and Irrigation System Installation Permit

Dear Customer of College Mound Special Utility District:

November 1, 2016, at a monthly Board of Directors' meeting, the Board adopted Ordinance 2016-01, requiring any person installing or having installed, a water sprinkler or irrigation system on a property located within the District of College Mound Special Utility District, obtain a permit prior to the installation. This is a one time permit fee of $25 per system. **This is for NEW installations only and does not apply to existing systems.** The penalty for those who do not obtain a permit prior to installation is currently $250.

If you currently have a sprinkler or irrigation system on your property, please contact us to ensure we have your property on our list.

Frequently asked questions:

Why are we requiring a permit?
TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) requires water purveyors to have all sprinkler/irrigation systems on file along with an annual inspection report of the RPZ (reduced pressure zone assembly). The RPZ is a requirement of TCEQ because a sprinkler/irrigation system is considered a Health Hazard.

Why is a sprinkler/irrigation system considered a health hazard?
The sprinkler heads have the potential to not seal properly when they turn off, allowing lawn chemicals and animal feces to enter the water lines and potentially be syphoned into both the customers' water service line and our main water lines. With a properly installed and functioning RPZ between the sprinkler/irrigation system and the customers' service line, the health hazard has been isolated.

How does College Mound SUD ensure the RPZ's are properly installed and functioning?
The required permit gives us notice of the sprinkler/irrigation system and we ensure they pass inspection annually.

What happens if a customer does not have an RPZ installed on their sprinkler/irrigation system?
TCEQ rules mandate the water service be terminated until an RPZ is properly installed and tested.
What happens if a sprinkler/irrigation system is found after December 1, 2016 and a permit has not been obtained?
If we do not already have the system documented, the property owner will need to provide proof the system was installed prior to December 1, 2016 to avoid a penalty of $250.

What do I need to do if I have an existing sprinkler/irrigation system but I am not on your list?
Contact Linda @ (972) 563-1355 immediately and provide her with the information of the system and the backflow device you have installed. We will also need a copy of your latest annual inspection report for the backflow device. If the backflow device has not been inspected within the last twelve months, you will be required to obtain an inspection immediately. College Mound SUD currently offers a backflow

inspection/testing for a fee of $125. If you choose to use an outside source, a Licensed BPAT inspector must be used and they must be on our approved list of inspectors.

Why does CMSUD require me to use a Licensed BPAT inspector approved by you?
TCEQ requires inspectors hold a valid BPAT license issued by the State of Texas. CMSUD is required to ensure their license is current and their gauges used for the testing have been calibrated and tested every twelve months. Licensed BPAT inspectors must register with CMSUD annually and are required to pay an annual registration fee of $25, Ordinance 2016-02. This helps us ensure the persons inspecting within our District have been qualified by the State of Texas, which in turn helps you as the customer know the person you call holds the State required qualifications before you pay them for their services. (We have had instances where the person conducting the inspection did not hold the proper license. This can cause the customer to pay for a second inspection.)

How do I know when the inspection is due on my RPZ?
College Mound SUD tracks this for you and will send you a letter thirty-days prior to expiration of the prior inspection and if you chose to use CMSUD for your inspection, we will schedule it within that thirty-days for you.

What if I don't want to use CMSUD for my inspection?
Although we would like for you to utilize our employed BPAT inspectors because we can ensure the inspection is conducted properly; upon request, we will provide you with a list of the registered inspectors we have on file and you can choose an inspector from the list.

What happens if my RPZ fails an annual inspection?
Law requires the inspector to leave the water turned off until the RPZ is either repaired or replaced.

My sprinkler/irrigation system was installed without an RPZ or was installed with a double check valve, how do I correct this?
30 TAC, chapter 344 requires the installation of an RPZ where on-site sewage, (septic system), is on the same property. If you have had a system installed within the past few years and your installer did not install an RPZ for your sprinkler/irrigation system, you should contact them for correction immediately. If you have an older system and a double check was installed before the law changed, it still has to be tested annually and will require replacement when there is ANY kind of repairs to the system or when the double check fails testing, it must be replaced with an RPZ.

What if I no longer want my sprinkler/irrigation system?
Upon verification of the disconnection and disassembly of the system from your service line, we will provide you with an affidavit to sign stating you agree not to reconnect the system without prior notification to CMSUD.

These ordinances and policies are for the protection of you as our customer. They were put in place to aid you with your decisions regarding the testing of your automatic sprinkler/irrigation systems.

I hope the information contained in this letter will be beneficial to you and answer any questions you may have regarding this issue; however, if you have any additional questions please feel free to contact us Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Sincerely,
Shirley Thompson
General Manager