



CITY OF MOLINE BACKWATER VALVE PROGRAM GENERAL POLICY

A backwater valve is a fixture attached to a sewer line, in the basement of a home or building foundation, to aid in the prevention of sewer or drainage backflows. Typically, property owners are responsible for all costs associated with the installation and maintenance of backwater valves. The purpose of the City of Moline's Backwater Valve Program is to provide assistance to the City's residential property owners by reimbursing a portion of the cost for the installation and materials of backwater valves on sewer service lines attached to City sewer mains, pursuant to the procedures and conditions set forth in this General Policy.

Department of Public Works

3635 4th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265

Administration
(309) 524-2345

Engineering
(309) 524-2350
Fax: (309) 524-2369

Building-Inspections
(309) 524-2370
Fax: (309) 524-2379

Municipal Services
(309) 524-2400
Fax: (309) 524-2369

Fleet Services
(309) 524-2380
Fax: (309) 524-2389

Utility Divisions

Water
30 18th Street
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 524-2300
Fax: (309) 524-2314

Water Pollution Control

South Plant
2800 48th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 524-2325
FAX: (309) 524-2327

North Plant
007 1st Avenue
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 524-2335
FAX: (309) 524-2336

Sewer Maintenance
015 1st Avenue
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 524-2340
FAX: (309) 524-2343

Website

<http://www.moline.il.us>

PROCEDURES

- The Backwater Valve Program (hereinafter "Program") will be administered by the City's Water Pollution Control Division ("WPC").
- The Program will only be available for single-family, owner-occupied residences within the City of Moline. Commercial and industrial properties will not be eligible for this Program.
- WPC will provide Program application forms to property owners upon request.
- Completed Program applications shall be returned to WPC and will be reviewed by the Utilities General Manager.
- The Utilities General Manager will grant or deny an application based upon departmental records relating to the maintenance history of the listed address and its surrounding area, as well as documentation submitted with the application.
- Following review of the application, the Utilities General Manager will send a written decision of approval or denial to the applicant at the address provided on the application.
- In case of denial, the applicant will have the right to appeal the decision in writing to the Public Works Director within ten (10) calendar days of the denial notice.
- An approved application will be forwarded to the City's Plumbing Inspector (hereinafter "Inspector") pending issuance of a plumbing permit.
- Upon final inspection of the installation by the Inspector, the white copy of the approved application, containing the permit number, final inspection date and the Inspector's signature, will be returned to the applicant for reimbursement submittal to WPC Administration. Reimbursement payments will be generated by WPC Administration.

INSTALLATION

- The backwater valve can be installed by a licensed plumber or by the property owner.
 - **If installation is performed by a licensed plumber:**
 - The property owner's application shall include three (3) itemized cost estimates by a licensed plumber.
 - The City will reimburse the property owner 50% of the plumber's labor/cost for installation and up to \$400.00 for the cost of materials, based upon the lowest of the three itemized cost estimates. For purposes of reimbursement, the materials shall be limited to an approved backwater valve, couplings necessary to complete the project, and up to three (3) 80-pound bags of concrete mix.
 - The owner will be reimbursed by the City within thirty (30) days of submittal of the following to WPC Administration: the approved application form signed by the Inspector after final inspection of the installation, and an attached invoice showing payment to the plumber.

- **Note:** The City assumes no responsibility in making payment to the plumber; the property owner shall be solely responsible for remitting said payment to the plumber prior to submitting documentation to WPC Administration for reimbursement.
- **If installation is performed by the property owner:**
 - The property owner shall not be reimbursed by the City for labor to install the backwater valve.
 - The City will reimburse the property owner for the cost of materials up to \$400.00. For purposes of reimbursement, the materials shall be limited to an approved backwater valve, couplings necessary to complete installation, and up to three (3) 80-pound bags of concrete mix.
 - The owner will be reimbursed by the City within thirty (30) days of submittal of the following to WPC Administration: the approved application form signed by the Inspector after final inspection of the installation, and an attached receipt or receipts for the purchased materials.
- A plumbing permit must be obtained from the City's Building Division prior to installation by either a licensed plumber or the property owner. Contact the Building Division office at (309) 524-2370.
- Recommended placement of the backwater valve is inside the residence in an accessible location. Placement of the valve inside a manhole will be solely at the owner's expense and will not be eligible for reimbursement under this Program. Location and accessibility of the backwater valve may be reviewed with the Inspector prior to installation.
 - An underground inspection and final inspection by the Inspector are required to ensure proper installation and completion of the work.

MAINTENANCE

- The care and maintenance of the backwater valve is the sole responsibility of the property owner.
- Following installation, the backwater valve will require periodic service of at least semi-annual frequency; such service would entail removal of the top and cleaning and flushing of the valve to assure the "flapper" functions properly.

DISCLAIMER AND INDEMNIFICATION

The City of Moline, in participating in the Backwater Valve Program does not represent, guarantee or assume any liability whatsoever as to the prevention or reduction of sewage or drainage backup into residential properties of property owners participating in this Program

The property owner, in consideration of being allowed to participate in this Program, does hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, remise, release, indemnify and forever discharge the City of Moline, Illinois, a municipal corporation, its officers, employees, agents and assigns from any and all manner of action or actions, cause and causes of action, suits, debts, dues, sums of money, accounts, reckonings, bonds, bills, specialties, covenants, contracts, controversies, agreements, promises, trespasses, damages, judgments, executions, claims and demands whatsoever, in law or equity, for anything that has occurred or may occur pursuant to the installation or maintenance of a backwater valve on his property. The property owner recognizes that the installation of the backwater valve may cause a failure in the sanitary sewer service itself if such service is in poor or deteriorated condition, and that said failure may be due to extra pressure that has not heretofore been placed upon it. The property owner acknowledges that the installation of the backwater valve is for the purpose of preventing or reducing sewer or drainage backup, but that the City does not represent, guarantee or assume any liability whatsoever in the event backup and/or damage occurs. The property owner further understands and agrees that any reimbursement made by the City to the property owner pursuant to this Program is not to be considered as an admission on the part of the City or its agents of any liability whatsoever. The property owner hereby also agrees that in order to receive reimbursement for the installation and/or material costs referenced above, he must adhere to the guidelines set forth in this General Policy, including obtaining a plumbing permit prior to installation of the valve, adhering to the City's applicable building and plumbing codes, and providing the Inspector access to the property for the purpose of inspecting the completed valve installation.

For questions regarding this Backwater Valve Program, please contact the Moline Water Pollution Control office at (309) 524-2325, 30 18th Street, Moline, IL.

Property owners wishing to apply for financial assistance may contact the Moline Community Development office at (309) 524-2040, 619 16 Street, Moline, IL.