

## **SPRING START UP-IRRIGATION BACKFLOW ASSEMBLIES**

Landscape irrigation systems make watering lawns and gardens convenient and save time, but, water that may be contaminated by weed killers, pesticides, animal waste, or fertilizers may be back-siphoned (backflow) into your drinking water.

To protect your drinking water from potential contamination, it is important to have an approved backflow protection assembly/device properly installed on your irrigation system. It is equally important to be certain this backflow prevention assembly is tested annually to ensure that it is functioning properly, in fact annual backflow assembly testing is required by the State of Idaho and City Ordinance.

Irrigation backflow assemblies must be tested annually at spring irrigation start up and no later than July 1st of each calendar year. This test, performed by a private, state licensed Backflow Assembly Tester (The City of Coeur d'Alene Water Department has a list of approved testers), verifies that the backflow prevention assembly is functioning properly.

A lawn irrigation system that is not protected by an approved backflow prevention assembly, or protected by an assembly that is not functioning correctly, endangers the health of a household, neighborhood, and the entire community.

If you have any questions or wish to obtain a list of approved state licensed Backflow Assembly Testers, contact Gary Alan Nolan, 208-769-2220 extension 818, or go to [www.cdaid.org](http://www.cdaid.org)