



# NEWS FROM YOUR BPW

**Board of Public Works**  
**1600 O Street, PO Box 288**  
**Auburn, NE 68305 (402-274-4981)**  
**auburnbpw.com**



**BPW 's office is remaining closed, at this time, so please continue to use our drive-up window or night drop-box on the north side of our building.**

**BPW has a new billing provider and we are working with them to get the bar graphs back on our billing statements.**



## BEAT THE HEAT

STAY HEALTHY & SAFE THIS SUMMER



**Drink water**  
Stay hydrated & don't wait until you're thirsty.



**Wear sunscreen**  
Apply sunscreen before going outdoors. Reapply every 2 hours.



**Avoid peak times**  
Stay indoors during the hottest time of the day from 10AM - 4PM if possible.



**Protect your eyes**  
Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from UV rays.



**Keep cool**  
Protect your skin from direct sunlight to prevent sunburn.



**Look before you lock**  
Never leave children or pets inside the car. Protect them from heatstroke.



**Seek shade**  
Use a tree, umbrella or tent to protect you from the sun.

**Reminder...Utility payments are always due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Payments are considered delinquent if not received by 5:00pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. A 6% penalty fee will be applied for late payments.**

**Note: if the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend, payment will not be considered delinquent and no late fee will be applied if it's received by the following Monday before 7:00am.**

**Customers can pay online or utilize the night drop box located on the north side of the office building.**

**Equal Pay Customers, Please Take Note...**

Your monthly equal pay utility amount is reevaluated/recalculated every January & July of each year. That monthly equal pay amount may go up or go down depending on the previous 12-month usage of utility services.



### What is a “cross-connection”?

A cross-connection is a permanent or temporary piping arrangement which can allow your drinking water to be contaminated if a backflow condition occurs. A cross-connection occurs when a pipe designed to carry safe drinking water is connected at some point to unsafe water or other liquid material. You may not think of your home as susceptible to such hazards, but if you have a hose that is submerged in a pool, carwash bucket, bathtub or laundry sink, or if you have a pesticide sprayer connected to a garden hose, you've created a cross-connection. If a water main breaks, the potential exists for unsafe substances to be siphoned back into the water supply. This means that contaminated water in a pool, carwash bucket, laundry sink, or pesticide sprayer could be drawn into the water system. Once there, the contamination could affect many.

### What is “backflow”?

It's just what it sounds like: the water is flowing in the opposite direction from its normal flow. With the direction of flow reversed, due to a change in pressure, backflow can allow contaminants to enter our drinking water system through cross-connections.

### Consequences of Backflow:

- A toilet flush valve without an anti-siphon device can permit toilet odors, vapors and worse to get into household plumbing and the water you drink. These are generally commercial type toilets that have no tank on the back.
- If a garden hose is used to clean out sewer lines or rain gutter downspouts, a drop in pressure can cause contamination from those sources to be drawn back into your water supply.
- Water being used to fill a swimming pool can be drawn back into the water supply during pressure drops, bringing contamination with it.
- If an insecticide attachment is used on a garden hose, backflow can cause potentially lethal contamination of water supplies if not properly protected.

**If you have any questions about cross-connections, please call the BPW at 402-274-4981.**

### 5 Ways to Save Water this Summer

1. Water your yard in the morning or evening. Water evaporates quickly when the sun is high, so sprinkle when it is more likely to stay in the soil.
2. Check for leaks with the toilet test. Put a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet into your toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl, your tank is leaking, silently wasting up to 100 gallons of water a day.
3. Shorten your shower. Trimming just two minutes off your shower can save up to 1,750 gallons of water per person in your household each year.
4. Use the dishwasher. Hand-washing your dishes can use up to 27 gallons of water, compared to just 3 gallons for a new Energy Star-rated dishwasher.
5. Cover the pool. If you're fortunate enough to have a backyard pool, make sure the water stays in it instead of evaporating—cover your pool when you're not using it, even in the summer.



Office Hours: 7:30 am to 5:00 pm M-F  
Service Center Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm M-F

**OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2020**