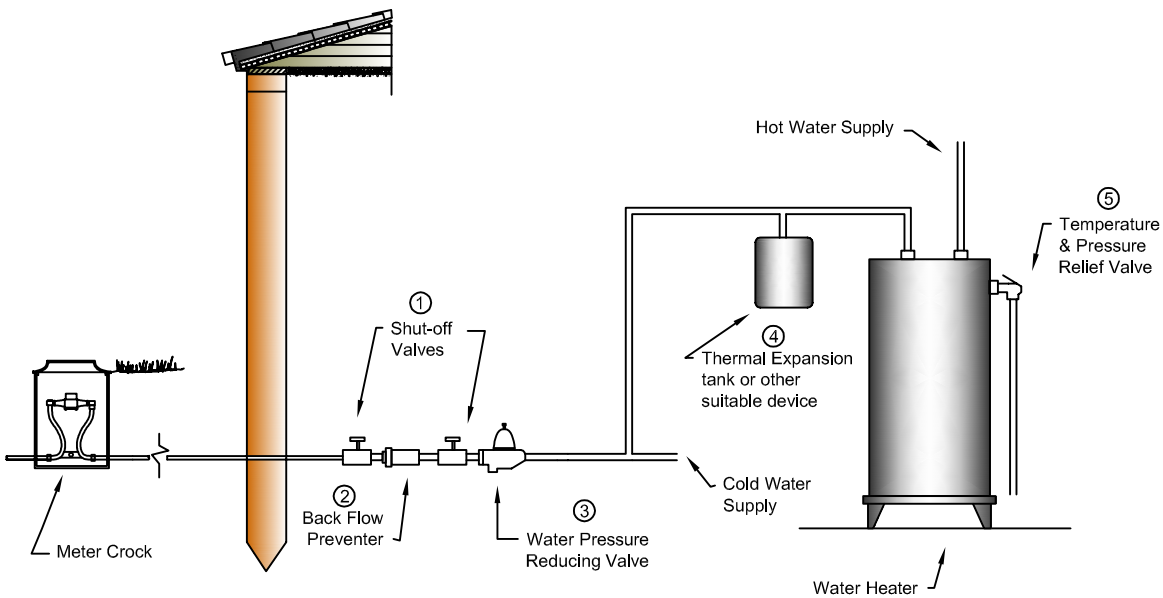


# Southwest Regional Water District Backflow Prevention and Thermal Expansion



1. Valves must be installed on both sides of the back flow preventer in order to test and maintain the unit. Unions should also be installed for removal of equipment to be replaced or repaired.
2. The water user has the responsibility of protecting the potable water supply from contamination originating from conditions on his premises. For most residential customers, a dual check valve on the customer's water system will prevent back flow of contaminants into the public water supply.
3. Water pressure reducing valve. *A water savings test program concluded that reducing water pressure from 80 psi. to 50 psi. can result in a water savings of 30%. The Ohio Plumbing Code (604.8) requires a pressure reducing valve whenever pressure inside the building can exceed 80 psi.*
4. With the back flow preventer, the water within the residential plumbing system can not flow backwards and thermal expansion within the customer's water system should be addressed. The installation of a thermal expansion tank or other pressure relieving device within the customer's water system will correct the problem. **WARNING! DO NOT IGNORE THE POSSIBILITY OF THERMAL EXPANSION. AN INOPERATIVE PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE COULD CAUSE THE WATER HEATER TO EXPLODE.** *Southwest Regional Water District does not promote or endorse any product used to control thermal expansion. We suggest that you contact a reputable plumber or plumbing supplier to recommend a device that is most suitable for your needs.*
5. The temperature and pressure relief valve on the water heater should be checked periodically to see that it is operational.

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