

OTTER LAKE WATER DISTRICT

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BYLAW NO. 163

A Bylaw for the control of backflow and cross connections to protect the potable water supply from possible contamination or pollution.

The Trustees of Otter Lake Water District **ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

1. In this Bylaw:

- a) “Water Authority” means Otter Lake Water District.
- b) “Trustee” means the Trustee of the Water Authority or any person authorized by the Trustee to act on their behalf.
- c) “Private Water System” means a water system privately owned or operated for the delivery or distribution of water and includes any domestic use, irrigation system, greenhouse and hydroponics system, and any other use of water supplied by the Water Authority’s waterworks system.
- d) “Certified Technician” means a person holding a valid certificate from the British Columbia Water and Waste Association for the purpose of testing and servicing all types of backflow prevention devices.
- e) “Person” includes a corporation, partnership or party and the personal or other legal representative of a person to whom the context can apply according to law and the singular includes the plural and the masculine includes the feminine.
- f) “Cross Connection” means any physical arrangement whereby the Water Authority’s water supply is connected, directly or indirectly, with any non-potable or unapproved private water supply system, sewer, drain, conduit, well, pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, or any other device which contains, or may contain, contaminated water, liquid, gases, sewage, or other waste, of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the public water supply as a result of backflow.
- g) “Backflow” means the reversal of flow from the private water system to the Water Authority’s waterworks system.
- h) “Potable Water” means water that is fit for human consumption as defined in the British Columbia Drinking Water Regulation.

2. Subject to the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Bylaw:

No person shall create a cross connection by connecting, causing to be connected, or allowing to remain connected to the Water Authority’s waterworks system any device, piping, fixture, fitting, container, appliance or any other chattel or thing which may under any circumstances allow non-potable water, waste water or any chemical, liquid or other substance to enter the Water Authority’s waterworks system.

3. No owner or operator of a Private Water System connected to the Water Authority's waterworks system shall permit the creation of a cross connection or the introduction of any chemicals or foreign matter whatsoever into the Private Water System except upon strict compliance with the following:
 - a) The owner or operator of any Private Water System wishing to inject or introduce chemicals or foreign material into the water system must notify the Water Authority in writing of their intentions to do so.
 - b) The owner or operator of the Private Water System shall install a type of backflow prevention device approved by the Water Authority on the water system at the location of the service connection from the Water Authority or another location approved by the Trustee.
 - c) The backflow prevention device shall be installed in accordance with the current guidelines and practices of the MMCD or as otherwise directed by the Water Authority.
 - d) The backflow prevention device shall be a device approved by the Canadian Standards Association.
 - e) The owner or operator of a Private Water System shall have the backflow prevention device inspected once in each twelve (12) month period basis by a Certified Technician to ensure that it is an approved device, installed correctly and in proper operating condition. If the device is found to be faulty, it must be fixed and retested. A copy of the test report shall be provided to the Water Authority within thirty (30) days of completion of the test.
 - f) The owner or operator will provide to the Water Authority within thirty (30) days of initial installation of the backflow prevention device a certificate from a certified technician confirming:
 - i.) the date of installation of the backflow prevention device,
 - ii.) the type, model and size of backflow prevention device installed,
 - iii.) that it is an approved device installed correctly and in proper operating condition.
4. The operator of a Private Water System for agricultural purposes where a cross connection exists between the Water Works System of the Water Authority and the Private Water System shall in addition to the general provisions of Section 3 also comply with the following:
 - a) An approved reduced pressure backflow prevention device (RPBD) shall be used whenever fertilizers, chemicals or any other substance deleterious to health are introduced to a private water system.
 - b) Prior to commencement of operation of the Private Water System in each irrigation season, the owner or operator of the Private Water System shall have the backflow prevention device inspected by a Certified Technician to ensure that it is an approved device, installed correctly and in proper operating condition. A copy of the test report shall be provided to the Water Authority within thirty (30) days of completion of the test and prior to operation of the chemical injection system.
 - c) It is the responsibility of the owner or operator to ensure that chemicals are registered for the application method being employed and to operate the irrigation and chemical injection system in accordance with the procedures outlined in "Chemigation Guidelines for British Columbia", prepared by the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

- d) The owner or operator assumes responsibility for the operation of the irrigation and injection system and shall ensure that proper backflow prevention procedures are used at the connection to the Water Authority's waterworks system.
 - e) The owner or operator of any sprayer tank filling station shall maintain a minimum air gap of 30 cm between the end of the filler hose and the top of the sprayer tank. If this air gap cannot be maintained or if in the opinion of the Trustee the sprayer filling station is constructed or operated in a manner that constitutes a cross connection with the Water Authority's waterworks system, the provisions of paragraph 6 shall apply.
5. The Water Authority shall be entitled, at its determination to:
- a) inspect the Private Water System located on private property;
 - b) impose minimum standards which must be met and satisfied relating to the type of backflow preventer and the installation and maintenance of the same;
 - c) inspect the type of backflow preventer and the installation and state of maintenance and repair of the same.
6. Where any condition is found to exist which, in the opinion of the Trustee constitutes a cross connection with the Water Authority's waterworks system, the Trustee shall shut off the water supply service(s) to the property and notify the property owner that an approved backflow prevention device(s) shall be properly installed and tested prior to the water service(s) being turned on. If, in the sole opinion of the Trustee, a health hazard does not presently exist, the Trustee may give notice to the property owner to correct the cross connection within a specified period.
7. Any person whose water has been turned off pursuant to this Bylaw shall not have the water from the Water Authority turned on until such time as:
- a) all of the provisions of this bylaw have been complied with;
 - b) the said person pays to the Water Authority a turn on fee of one hundred dollars (\$100), and c) the Water Authority has turned on the service.
8. Any person who disobeys or fails to comply with any provision of this Bylaw shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) ,if the offence is of a continuing nature, a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) for each day the offence is continued.
9. This bylaw may be cited as the Otter Lake Water District "Cross Connection Control Bylaw"

Bylaw". **INTRODUCED AND GIVEN** first reading by the Trustees on the 17th day of October, 2019.
RECONSIDERED AND PASSED by the Trustees on the 26th day of November, 2019.

Chairman of Trustees: _____

I HEREBY certify under the Seal of the Otter Lake Water District that this is a true copy of Bylaw No. 163 of the Otter Lake Water District passed by the trustees this 26th day of November, 2019.

Administrator: _____