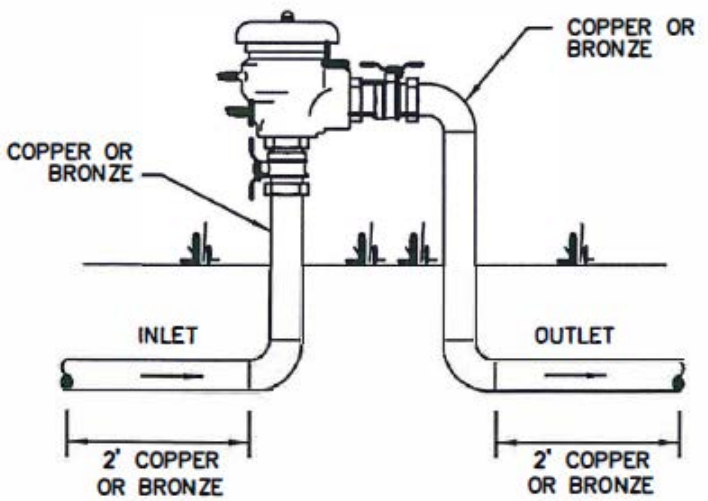
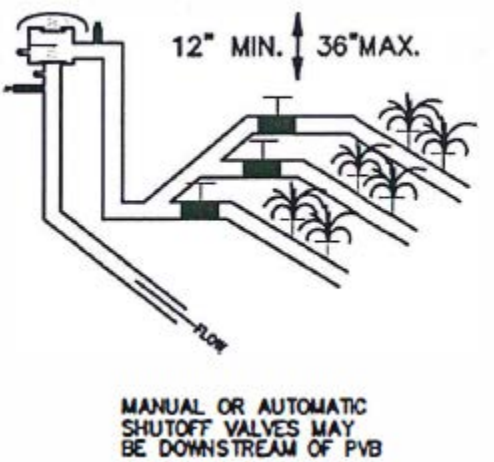
BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY INSTALLATION GUIDE
PRESSURE VACUUM BREAKER (PVB)

This insert serves as a guidance document for the installation of backflow prevention assemblies within the Charleston Water System (CWS) service area. All installations must be inspected and approved by CWS. Contact CWS within two days of installation to request an inspection. Inspection request line: 843-727-6981.

- Install assembly on customer's side of the water meter prior to any branch, tee or service connection.
- Install assembly in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- Assembly shall be installed vertically, above ground, at least 12" but no more than 36" higher than the highest downstream irrigation head, hose bib or piping. Provide minimum 6" clearance on all sides of assembly.
- Installed assembly shall be easily accessible for in-line maintenance and testing.
- No fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, or other substances shall be introduced into a lawn irrigation system protected by a pressure vacuum breaker.
- No material shall restrict or interfere with the proper operation of the air inlet valve.
- Provide minimum 2' of copper or bronze piping on inlet and outlet side of assembly.
- Black iron, black steel or galvanized steel pipe shall not be used in the upstream piping.
- Installed assembly shall be rigid and stable. CWS reserves the right to require additional support and restraint.
- CWS highly recommends freeze protection, such as insulated enclosures or padded wraps, for all above ground assemblies.
- For assemblies exposed to vehicular traffic, a traffic-grade enclosure box or protective bollards are recommended.





For questions concerning the installation, placement of your assembly or to request an inspection, contact CWS by phone at 843-727-6981, by fax at 843-579-6852, or by email at backflow@charlestoncpw.com. For additional information on CWS's Cross-Connection Control Program and a complete list of approved testers, please visit our website at www.charlestonwater.com.