

# IMPORTANT PROTECTION NOTICE

(October 2007)

## To The Water Users of the Chelmsford Water District,

This letter is to inform you that the District has a bylaw in place concerning the regulation of all underground irrigation systems. The District needs to inspect and regulate the operation of these irrigation systems on a regular basis for the purpose of backflow prevention inspection of installation and operational integrity.

Even though the water has passed thru your meter, if there is not a proper installation of a backflow prevention device, you the homeowner, could unwittingly contaminate the water in the distribution system. This contamination can come from any pesticide, herbicide or other potentially hazardous household items used in and around your property. The District is mandated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to test our source wells and distribution system on a prescribed schedule. This is to protect your community from any contamination that could affect the distribution system.

For these important reasons, the District has a mandatory need to inspect all irrigation systems that are installed throughout the distribution system. This is a quick process and will only take a few minutes of your time. Please keep in mind that this inspection process is being implemented for you and your community's protection and safety, and that there is no charge for this inspection.

The District is already mandated by the Department of Environmental Protection to already test commercial buildings throughout the distribution system for backflow prevention, on an annual or bi-annual basis. The regularity of these inspections is based upon the backflow device type.

Please be advised that any person or entity violating the By-Law that no person shall install, repair, replace, or alter a permanent irrigation system connection to the distribution system except as provided by this By-Law and that person is liable to the District in the amount of \$50 for the first offense, \$100 for the second and \$300 for the third and any subsequent offense. So please take a moment of your time and call the District at 978-256-2931 Monday thru Friday, 7:00 A.M- 3:30 P.M. or send an email to [dpuls@chelmsfordwater.com](mailto:dpuls@chelmsfordwater.com) to schedule your appointment for this inspection. You can also contact the district's Environmental Compliance Manager, Todd Melanson by phone at 978-256-2931, or email at [tmelanson@chelmsfordwater.com](mailto:tmelanson@chelmsfordwater.com).

Regards,

Chelmsford Water District