

Rowland Water District

Onsite Construction Requirements for Recycled Water Use Sites



New water service requests for commercial/industrial locations, and existing recycled water customers modifying their onsite potable or recycled water systems, will be required to install onsite water systems to the current codes and source identification requirements established for recycled water use sites.

As a condition of water service, locations designated for recycled water service will be inspected for the following requirements:

1. Irrigation system plans and specifications shall be submitted to RWD for review and approval prior to installation.
2. All underground recycled water lines and potable water lines shall be appropriately identified. RWD personnel will be onsite during this project phase to inspect and verify line markings.
3. All aboveground piping, valve boxes, vaults, control valves, quick coupling valves, outlets, and related appurtenances shall be color coded and labeled or tagged for recycled water and potable water sources. Labels or tags will identify specific water source in both English and Spanish.
4. Horizontal and Vertical Pipeline Separation – For public health and safety, it is imperative to avoid any accidental contamination of potable water systems resulting for pipeline breaks, cross-connections or any event that allows accidental contact between recycled water and potable water systems. Therefore, maximum attainable separation of recycled water lines and potable water lines shall be required.
 - a. Horizontal Construction Method: There shall be a minimum ten-foot (10') separation measured horizontally from the outside diameter of pipelines.
 - b. Vertical Construction Method: There shall be a minimum one-foot (1') vertical separation, with potable water systems vertically above recycled water systems. Pipeline runs shall be installed as perpendicular as possible with full pipe lengths centered over any crossings.
 - c. Alternate Vertical Construction Method (Where proper separation is not practical): Either the potable or recycled water lines may be sleeved with the same class piping for one full pipe length (minimum ten feet) centered over crossing.
 - d. Onsite water systems shall be constructed in conformance with potable water and recycled water construction standards and in accordance with all other governing codes, rules and regulations.
5. Irrigation sprinkler heads shall be properly identified by color.
6. Quick-coupler valves used in recycled water systems with special construction and located in a properly colored valve box requiring a special coupler key to activate the valve. Conventional threaded hose bibs are prohibited on recycled water systems within areas of public access.
7. Approved backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed on all onsite water systems unless directed otherwise by RWD.
8. Pressure test inspections will be performed by RWD and Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health personnel to ensure the absence of any cross-connections between potable water and recycled water systems.

Inspection results will be available for customer review and comments. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Alex Zaragoza, Cross-Connection Control Specialist at (562) 383-2350.