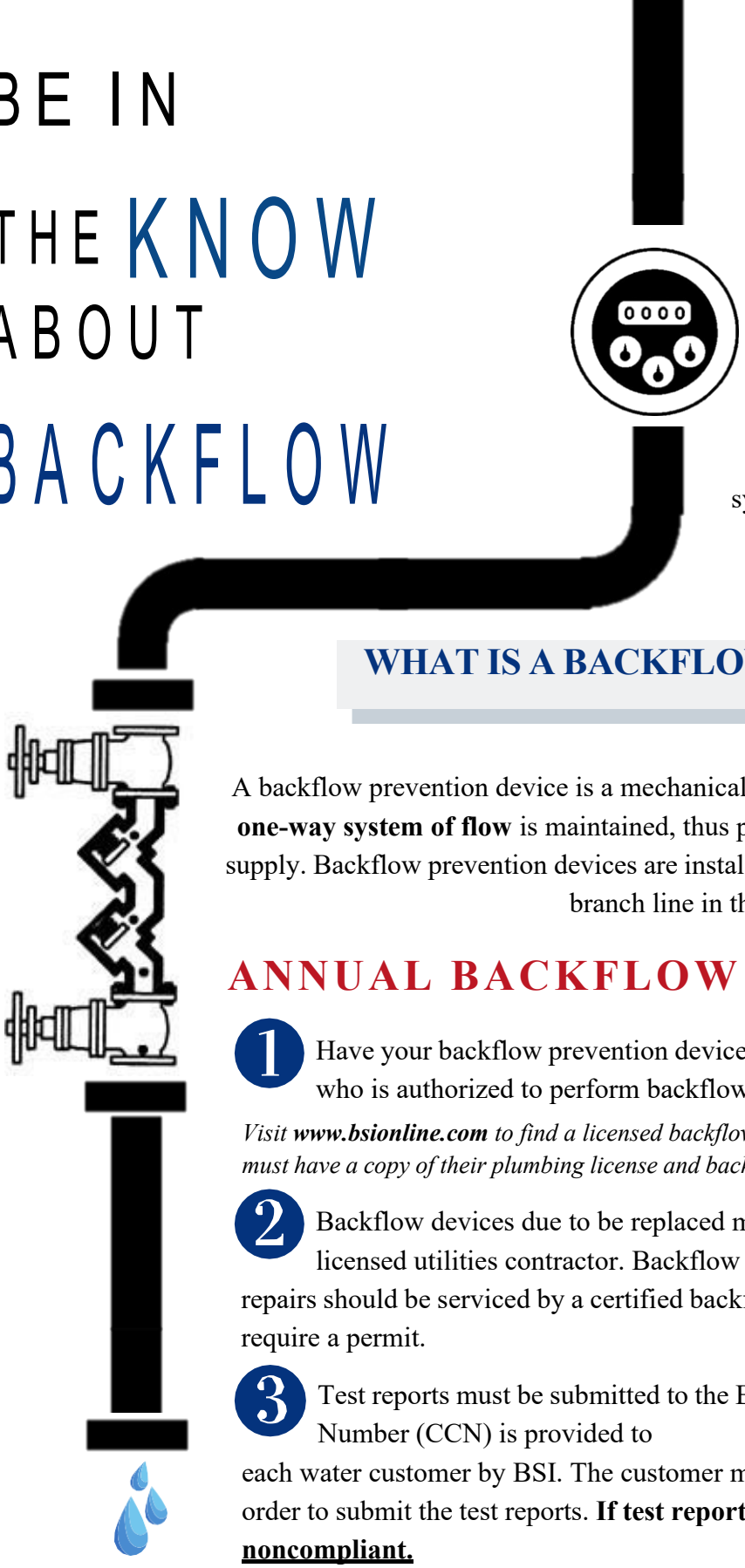
BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT BACKFLOW



WHAT IS BACKFLOW?

Water systems depend on water pressure to keep water flowing in the proper direction through the pipes. However, a sudden or unexpected change in water pressure can cause an undesirable reversal in the normal flow of water. This is called **backflow**.

During a backflow event, potentially non-potable water flows backwards from the consumer's water system and returns to the public water supply, creating a possible health risk.

WHAT IS A BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE?

A backflow prevention device is a mechanical assembly installed in the water line to ensure that a **one-way system of flow** is maintained, thus preventing backflow and protecting the public water supply. Backflow prevention devices are installed between the consumer's water meter and the first branch line in their private plumbing.

ANNUAL BACKFLOW TESTING IS REQUIRED.

1. Have your backflow prevention device tested annually through a certified tester who is authorized to perform backflow testing.

*Visit **www.bsionline.com** to find a licensed backflow tester in your area, or to register as one. Prospective testers must have a copy of their plumbing license and backflow test/repair certification.*

2. Backflow devices due to be replaced must be completed by a licensed plumber or a licensed utilities contractor. Backflow devices needing repairs should be serviced by a certified backflow repair technician. Repairs do not require a permit.

3. Test reports must be submitted to the BSI by the tester. A unique Customer Confirmation Number (CCN) is provided to each water customer by BSI. The customer must provide the CCN to the licensed tester in order to submit the test reports. **If test reports are not submitted to BSI, <u>the device will be noncompliant.</u>**

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SAFE BY ANNUALLY TESTING YOUR BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE(S).

*Visit **www.bsionline.com** to determine if your test reports have been filed, or to file test reports for assemblies you have tested.*