

**CHANGE TYPE:** Modification

## 202

### Backflow Preventer Definition

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** This definition has been made more specific about what constitutes a backflow preventer: a backflow prevention assembly, a backflow prevention device or other means or methods.

**2015 CODE: Backflow Preventer.** A backflow prevention assembly, a backflow prevention device or other means or methods to prevent backflow into the potable water supply.

**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** Changes made in the 2012 IPC throughout many of the potable water backflow prevention sections slightly changed the nomenclature of backflow equipment. There are now three distinct classes of backflow equipment: assemblies, devices and other means or methods. This class distinction clarifies that 1) an assembly is field testable, 2) a device is not testable in the field and 3) a means or method is observable for its adequacy to protect the potable water supply from backflow. Table 608.1 was reorganized to group backflow equipment into these three classes. This change (along with changes to Table 608.1) should make the code user more aware of the suitability of particular backflow equipment after the initial installation. In other words, if a verification of the backflow protection is needed year-after-year, either an assembly would be chosen for its field testability or other means or methods would be chosen so that installation conditions could be observed.

*202 continues*



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Backflow prevention assembly (field testable)

202 continued



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Backflow prevention device (mop sink faucet vacuum breaker—not field testable)



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Other means or methods to prevent backflow (air gap—visually inspected)