



As you may know, the City is nearing completion of a water system improvement project in your area. The goals for the project were as follows:

- replace the existing, aging, asbestos cement water main with a new, larger, ductile iron water main,
- replace 32 water service meters and service connections with new materials,
- replace 5 existing fire hydrants with new equipment, and
- provide additional backflow prevention and safety measures for selected existing connections.

The new equipment installed as part of the replacement of your residential service meter now contains a check valve, which prevents backflow from your residence to the water main. This feature provides additional safeguards for the City's water system as well as each individual customer, and conforms with City water system standards and Washington State Department of Health guidelines.

Normal water system operations and maintenance activities may create fluctuations in water pressure within both the water main and your individual water service line. These pressure fluctuations, although not typically significant or noticeable, can slowly weaken small diameter plumbing fixtures over time if not appropriately mitigated.

To provide your home with an additional level of safety from any pressure fluctuations, we recommend you investigate installing an expansion tank for your home if one is not already installed. These tanks are typically located on the cold water inlet pipe leading to the water heater and mitigate any excess water system pressure and extend the lifespan of the components in your plumbing system.

If your system already has an expansion tank, no further action is needed, but we recommend that you inspect the existing tank and check/adjust the tank's pressure as needed. If you do not yet have an expansion tank, we recommend you consider installation of one within the next 1-3 months to ensure protection from pressure surges.

Any licensed plumber or heating, cooling, and ventilation system technician should be able to assist with consultation or installation of a tank should you need assistance.

Sincerely,

*Lora Wilmes*

CITY OF CARNATION  
Lora Wilmes  
Administrative Services Manager