

ORDINANCE NO. 1923

TO PROVIDE A PROGRAM FOR PROTECTING THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM FROM CONTAMINATION DUE TO BACKFLOW OF CONTAMINANTS THROUGH THE WATER SERVICE CONNECTION INTO THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Munster is the municipal legislative body of the unit; and,

WHEREAS, with the passage of time various ordinances, codes, procedures of the Town of Munster must be amended; and,

WHEREAS, with the passage of time various practices, policies and procedures must be updated; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Munster is operates a Public Water System permitted through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM); and,

WHEREAS, 675 Indiana Administrative Code, Article 16, Rule 1.4, of the Indiana Plumbing Code, as adopted by the Indiana Fire Prevention and Building Safety Commission, requires protection of the public water supply from contaminants due to backflow through connections to fire protection and standpipe systems; and,

WHEREAS, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management authorizes the maintenance of a continuing program of cross-connection control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination of all potable water systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Munster of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That a cross connection shall be defined as any physical connection or arrangement between two otherwise separate systems, one of which contains potable water from the Town of Munster water system, and the other, water from a private source, water of unknown or questionable safety, or steam, gases, or chemicals, whereby there may be a flow from one system to the other, the direction of flow depending on the pressure differential between the two systems.

SECTION 2. That no person, firm, or corporation shall establish or permit to be established or maintain or permit to be maintained any cross connection. No interconnection shall be established whereby potable water from a private, auxiliary, or emergency water supply other than the regular public water supply of the Town of Munster may enter the supply or distribution system of said municipality, unless such private, auxiliary, or emergency water supply and the method of connection and use of such supply shall have been approved by the Town of Munster Public Water System and by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in accordance with 327 IAC 8-10.

SECTION 3. That it shall be the duty of the Town of Munster Department of Public Works to cause inspections to be made of all properties served by the public water system where cross connections with the public water system is deemed possible. The frequency of inspections and re-inspections based on potential health hazards involved shall be established by the Town of Munster Department of Public Works.

SECTION 4. That upon presentation of credentials, the representative of the Town of Munster Department of Public Works shall have the right to request entry at any reasonable time to examine the property served by a connection to the public water system of the Town of Munster for cross connections. On request, the owner, lessee, or occupant of any property so served shall furnish to the inspection agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property. The refusal of

access or refusal of requested pertinent information shall be deemed evidence of the presence of cross connections.

SECTION 5. That the Town of Munster Public Water System is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue water service to any property wherein any connection in violation of this ordinance exists, and to take such other precautionary measures deemed necessary to eliminate any danger of contamination of the public water system. Water service shall be discontinued only after reasonable notice is served on the owner, lessee, or occupants of the property or premises where a violation is found or suspected to exist. Water service to such property shall not be restored until the cross connection(s) has been eliminated in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 6. That, if it is deemed by the Town of Munster Department of Public Works that a cross connection or an emergency endangers public health, safety, or welfare and requires immediate action, and a written finding to that effect is filed with the clerk of the Town of Munster and delivered to the consumer's premises, service may be immediately discontinued. The consumer shall have an opportunity for hearing within 10 days of such emergency discontinuance.

SECTION 7. That all consumers using toxic or hazardous liquids, all hospitals, mortuaries, wastewater treatment plants, laboratories, and all other hazardous users install and maintain a reduced pressure principal backflow preventer in the main water line serving each building on the premises. The backflow preventer must be installed in an easily accessible location not subject to flooding or freezing.

SECTION 8. That reduced pressure principle backflow preventers shall not be installed below ground level.

SECTION 9. That this ordinance does not supersede the Indiana Plumbing Code, the IDEM Rule 327 IAC 8-10 or the Town of Munster Municipal Code but is supplementary to them.

SECTION 10. In addition to IDEM Rule 327 IAC 8-10-4(c), the following customer facilities need a backflow prevention device:

Commercial Irrigation Systems
Residential Irrigation Systems

SECTION 11. That if, in the judgment of the Director of Public Works, an approved backflow prevention device is necessary for the safety of the public water system; the Director of Public Works will give notice to the water consumer to install such an approved device immediately. The water consumer shall, at his own expenses, install such an approved device at a location and in a manner approved by the Director of Public Works and shall have inspections and tests made of such approved devices as required by the Director of Public Works and in accordance with the IDEM Rule 327 IAC 8-10.

SECTION 12. It shall be the responsibility of customer-user at any premises where backflow prevention assemblies are installed to have certified inspections and operational tests made upon installation and at least once per year. In those instances where the Town of Munster Director of Public Works deems the hazard to be great enough, the Director may require certified inspections at more frequent intervals. These inspections and tests shall be at the expense of the water user and shall be performed by a certified tester approved by the state of Indiana and the Town of Munster Department of Public Works. It shall be the duty of the Town of Munster Department of Public Works to see that these tests are made in a timely manner. If a customer-user does not have its backflow prevention assembly tested within thirty (30) days of notification, the Town of Munster Department of Public Works may discontinue water service to the premises to maintain the safety of the public water system. These assemblies shall be repaired, overhauled or replaced at the expense of the customer-user whenever said assemblies are found to be defective. Records of such tests, repairs and overhaul shall be kept and made available to the Town of Munster Department of Public Works.

SECTION 13. Certified testers shall be listed with the Town of Munster Department of Public Works

and shall provide proof of six contact hours annually of approved continuing education to the Town of Munster Department of Public Works. In addition, certified testers will provide proof that test gauges used in testing backflow prevention assemblies have been calibrated and certified annually.

SECTION 14. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and signing by the members of the Munster Town Council.

ORDAINED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Munster, Lake County, Indiana this ____ day of _____, 2023 by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ opposed.

**Town Council of the Town of Munster,
Lake County, Indiana**

Chuck Gardiner, President

ATTEST:

Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer