The City of Greeley’s public water system is overseen by a team of certified water operations professionals who care about meeting all regulations and providing safe, reliable water to Greeley customers. On July 7th, the City participated in a routine audit by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) of all water operations, facilities and record-keeping practices. On August 5, Greeley Water & Sewer received two Treatment Technique Violations that staff is now analyzing and working to fix. Neither of these violations threaten the quality of our water, but Greeley takes transparency seriously, and we have a duty to report issues and share information with our community. Violations are as follows:

1. **Failure to comply with backflow assembly testing record-keeping requirements**

* ***Backflow prevention assemblies*** are devices installed on water pipes that prevent contaminants from entering the drinking water supply. The State requires property owners to test and certify their backflow prevention assemblies annually. The City of Greeley maintains a database of test records for these properties and sends out reminders to complete the annual testing.
* ***What are the details of the violation?*** CDPHE found that Greeley’s 2021 records for backflow assembly had incomplete or missing information. Therefore, Greeley was not able to meet the requirement to test 100% of the backflow assembly devices by the regulatory deadline of March 31, 2022. Of the 4,126 backflow assemblies in the City’s database, records were missing or inaccurate for 271 assemblies. The City has corrected errors in the database and is reaching out to property owners whose assemblies still need to be tested. This correction will prevent the City from making similar errors in record-keeping in the future and ensure all properties are notified annually.
* ***Potential health risks of uncontrolled cross-connections:***Uncontrolled cross-connections can lead to a back pressure or siphonage event that may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.

1. **Failure to properly implement storage tank inspection plan**

* ***What are the details of this violation?***Water suppliers are required to develop and implement a plan for inspecting their treated water storage tanks. The City operates three storage tanks with floating covers that have a unique design and require extraordinary inspections. The City is required to have divers inspect the tanks on a regular basis, and CDPHE found that the City did not meet the requirements outlined in its inspection plan. The City is evaluating multiple options and financial resources to repair this infrastructure issue, including the possibility of taking the tanks out of service. If that is not possible, the City will work to comply with the inspection plan.
* ***Potential health risks of inadequately maintained storage tanks:*** Inadequately maintained storage tanks may allow contaminants or disease-causing organisms to enter the drinking water, which can cause diarrhea, nausea, cramps, and associated headaches.

**Transparency and Next Steps:**

The City of Greeley takes its duty to inform water customers of any compliance issues very seriously. There is no need to adjust your water source or use; the city’s water remains safe and reliable. There is nothing further that you need to do. The City of Greeley regularly monitors water quality throughout the distribution system, and records do not indicate that your drinking water was impacted. The City expects to return to compliance by December 1, 2022.

For more information about the City of Greeley’s Backflow Prevention Program, visit [reeleygov.com/services/ws/system/cross-connection-and-backflow-prevention](https://greeleygov.com/services/ws/system/cross-connection-and-backflow-prevention). For any questions about these violations, please contact Michaela Jackson, Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Manager, at 970-350-9836.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*