

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-20**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KINGSLAND, GEORGIA,  
TO PROVIDE FOR BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL WITHIN THE CITY'S  
WATER SYSTEM; TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH; TO ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLATION,  
TESTING, MAINTENANCE, AND RECORDKEEPING OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES;  
TO PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Kingsland operates a public water system that provides potable water to residents, businesses, and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the public potable water supply from contamination or pollution due to backflow or backsiphonage through cross-connections is critical to public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Rule 391-3-5-.13 requires public water systems to implement backflow prevention and cross-connection control programs; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it in the public interest to establish an ordinance providing for backflow prevention and cross-connection control in compliance with state regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Kingsland, Georgia as follows:

**SECTION 1. TITLE AND PURPOSE**

1. This ordinance shall be known and cited as the "City of Kingsland Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Ordinance."
2. Its purpose is to protect the public potable water supply of the City by preventing contamination from backflow, backsiphonage, and cross-connections.

**SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions apply:

- **Backflow:** The undesirable reversal of flow of water or other substances into the potable water supply.
- **Back-pressure:** A condition where the pressure in a non-potable system exceeds potable system pressure, causing potential contamination.
- **Back-siphonage:** Backflow caused by negative or below-atmospheric pressure in the potable water system.
- **Cross-connection:** Any actual or potential physical connection between potable water and a source of contamination.

- **Backflow Prevention Assembly:** A device installed to prevent backflow into the potable water system, including reduced pressure zone (RPZ), double check, and air-gap assemblies.
- **Certified Backflow Assembly Tester:** A person certified under Georgia's Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification Program.
- **Hazard Assessment:** Evaluation of the potential risk of contamination to the potable water system.
- **Owner/Customer:** The property owner or responsible party for premises served by the City's water system.

### **SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY**

1. This ordinance applies to all properties connected to the City's water system.
2. The Public Works Director, Municipal Utilities Director, or Water Superintendent may require backflow prevention assemblies where a hazard exists.
3. All new construction, remodeling, or changes in use must undergo a hazard assessment to determine backflow prevention requirements.
4. The Owner/Customer is responsible for ensuring compliance with this ordinance.

### **SECTION 4. BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Required assemblies shall be installed at the Owner/Customer's expense and approved by the Public Works Director, Municipal Utilities Director, or Water Superintendent.
2. Assemblies must be accessible for testing, maintenance, and inspection.
3. Assemblies shall be tested after installation, relocation, or repair by a Certified Backflow Assembly Tester before service activation.
4. Annual testing is required, and reports must be submitted to the City or the City's designee within thirty (30) days of testing.
5. Assemblies failing a test must be repaired or replaced within thirty (30) days, or service may be suspended.

### **SECTION 5. CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM**

1. The City shall maintain a written cross-connection control program in accordance with Georgia Rule 391-3-5-.13.
2. The Public Works Director, Municipal Utilities Director, or Water Superintendent may inspect properties, evaluate hazards, and require remedial actions.

3. Access for inspections must be provided upon reasonable notice.
4. Water service may be suspended for failure to correct hazardous conditions.

#### **SECTION 6. FEES AND COSTS**

1. The City may adopt a fee schedule by resolution for administration, inspection, testing oversight, and registration of backflow assemblies.
2. Owners/Customers are responsible for all costs related to installation, testing, repair, and maintenance of assemblies.
3. Non-payment may result in suspension of water service until fees are paid.

#### **SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES**

1. Violations include failure to install, test, maintain, or report on required assemblies, or interference with inspections.
2. The City may suspend water service, impose civil penalties, or pursue injunctive relief.
3. Each day of continued violation may constitute a separate offense.

#### **SECTION 8. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

1. Existing service connections without required backflow assemblies must complete hazard assessments within 180 days of ordinance adoption.
2. Required assemblies for existing connections must be installed and tested within 12 months of notification by the City.

#### **SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, clause, or phrase is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected.

#### **SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City Council and publication as required by law.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED** this 10 day of NOV, 2025.

CITY OF KINGSLAND, GEORGIA

By:   
Dr. C. Grayson Day, Jr., Mayor

Attest:   
City Clerk

