

## **Backwater & Backflow Preventers**

Prevent Damage from Backups www.davenportiowa.com

Sewer backwater and backflow preventers are a good investment to help prevent sewer and water backup into your home or business.

You don't have to be located in a floodplain to be at risk of sewer or water backup from heavy rains. Having backwater and backflow prevention on your sanitary sewer and potable water systems can prevent damage to your home and save you time, money, headache and heartache.

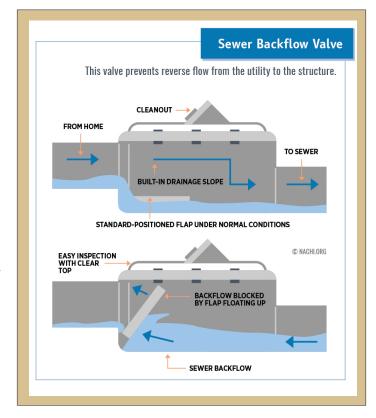
Sewer backup can be the result of heavy rains surcharging sanitary sewers as a result of inflow and infiltration and flooding, or a cross connection in your plumbing system. To reduce the possibility of sewer back up, consider having a backwater prevention device installed. If you already have one, be sure to check it at least once a year to make sure it is free of debris and working properly.

There are a variety of back water preventers. Talk to a licensed and bonded plumbing professional to discuss your options.

- Backwater check valve
- Knife valve
- Plugs I test balls, twist plugs and pressure plugs
- Sewer cut-off valve

## Don't confuse backwater preventers with backflow preventers

- Backflow devices are designed to prevent the reverse flow of potable water into your home.
- Examples of backflow preventers include Reduced Pressure Zone Device, Air Gap, Vacuum Breaker, Dual Check Valves, and Automated Flood Gate Valves.



## **Commonly Used Devices**

- An automated flood gate valve is a fully automatic air pressure device. It is considered the most effective in preventing sewer backing up into homes.
- Sewer check valves are the least expensive and most common type of backflow preventer; however, it may not completely stop a backup.

## Be sure to note:

All backflow preventers have to be installed by a licensed and bonded plumber.