



# American Society of Sanitary Engineering

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## California Department of Public Health's Drinking Water Program Accepts ASSE Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification

**Westlake, Ohio, June 14, 2011** — Within the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management's Drinking Water Program has found the American Society of Sanitary Engineering's (ASSE) Backflow Prevention Assembly Tester Certification (ASSE 5110) acceptable for individuals who perform testing on backflow prevention assemblies in the State of California. The CDPH's Drinking Water Program is responsible for administering California's Safe Drinking Water Act, regulating public drinking water systems, and adopting and enforcing regulations. The CDPH has expressed appreciation of the efforts ASSE has made in providing education to those interested in cross-connection control within the drinking water industry.

The California Health and Safety Code requires any person who owns a public water system to ensure that their system will not be subject to backflow incidents. Title 17 of California's Code of Regulations requires backflow preventers to be tested by "persons who have demonstrated their competency in testing these devices to the water supplier or health agency." ASSE Certified Backflow Testers, who are trained in ASSE Approved facilities in the State of California, meet the criteria set forth by the CDPH's Drinking Water Program and have demonstrated their competency to the Department.

Over the past many months, the American Society of Sanitary Engineering and members of the ASSE Cross-Connection Control Technical Committee have worked closely with representatives of the CDPH's Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management to ensure that all requirements set forth by the Department will be met by ASSE Certified testers who will be testing backflow assemblies in the State of California.

In related news, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) recently renewed and extended the ADEQ Backflow Prevention Testers Certification approval of ASSE's Cross-Connection Control Certification Program. This approval, which was originally issued on July 18 of 1996, has been renewed and extended up to July 18, 2016. ADEQ's approval also covers the ASSE Specialist/Program Administrator certification.

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