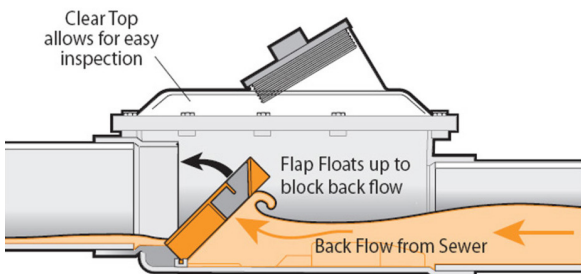
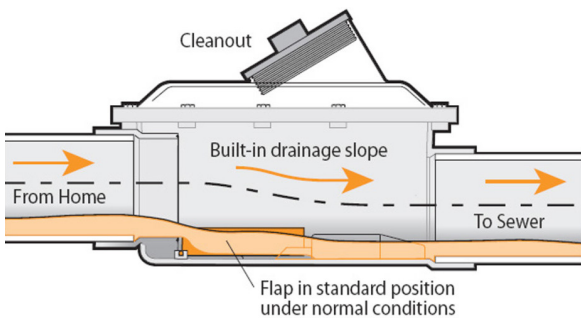


# WHAT IS A BACKWATER VALVE?



Sometimes referred to as a backflow valve, a backwater valve is a prevention device connected to the home's sanitary sewer lateral to ensure sewage flows in only one direction — from the home to the sewer — by closing when “back flowing” occurs.



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## How does a backwater valve work?

Inside the valve, a small flap is normally open, allowing waste water to exit your home. If water or sewage starts to flow back into the house, the flap will float up and close, thus preventing anything from entering the home. Once backflow stops, the valve reopens to allow continued flow of sewage out of the home.

## Where is a backwater valve installed?

The valve must be connected to the home's sanitary sewer lateral and accessible for maintenance. Backwater valves are usually installed indoors, but in some situations an outside install is more practical. Ask a plumber registered with Grove City to find the best place for installation.

## Who maintains a backwater valve?

Maintenance of a backwater valve is important to ensure proper functioning and is the homeowner's responsibility. Follow the manufacturers' maintenance recommendations to avoid valve failure.

**NOTE:** If a backwater valve is not properly maintained, sanitary waste and storm water can back up into a home during an extreme rainfall event. Therefore, homeowners should be educated about proper valve inspection and maintenance.



## Avoid blockages in the backwater valve and City sewer system.

Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed down the toilet.

### **DON'T FLUSH...**

- Personal Hygiene Products
- Pharmaceuticals
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Fats, Oils, Grease
- Disposable wipes, cloth, plastic