

## Building Department

Building and Inspection Division

City Hall Number

[www.stfrancismn.org](http://www.stfrancismn.org)

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The MN State Plumbing Code requires an approved type of back flow prevention device to be installed on all lawn sprinkler systems. This device must be installed by a licensed plumber or the homeowner. This requirement is in place to prevent back flow contamination of your water and the city's public water system.

In order to locate and inspect these systems, the City of St. Francis requires a permit for all lawn irrigation systems. If a system is to be installed by a contractor they must obtain the permit. If a homeowner is installing the system they may obtain the permit. Please provide the approved type of backflow preventer information when applying for the permit. The cost of the permit is \$50.00 plus the state surcharge (\$5.00). The city does not need a layout of the system.

Any irrigation system that contains pumps or injectors for the addition of chemicals and/or fertilizers is considered a greater contamination hazard and requires a greater level of protection. All system designs shall meet Minnesota Plumbing Code 4715.1900 and related sections for potable water protection. Contact City inspection staff or a licensed plumber for further details.

As per Minnesota State Statute 103G.298, all automatically operated landscape irrigation systems shall have furnished and installed technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of the irrigation system during periods of sufficient moisture. (i.e. Rain Sensor)

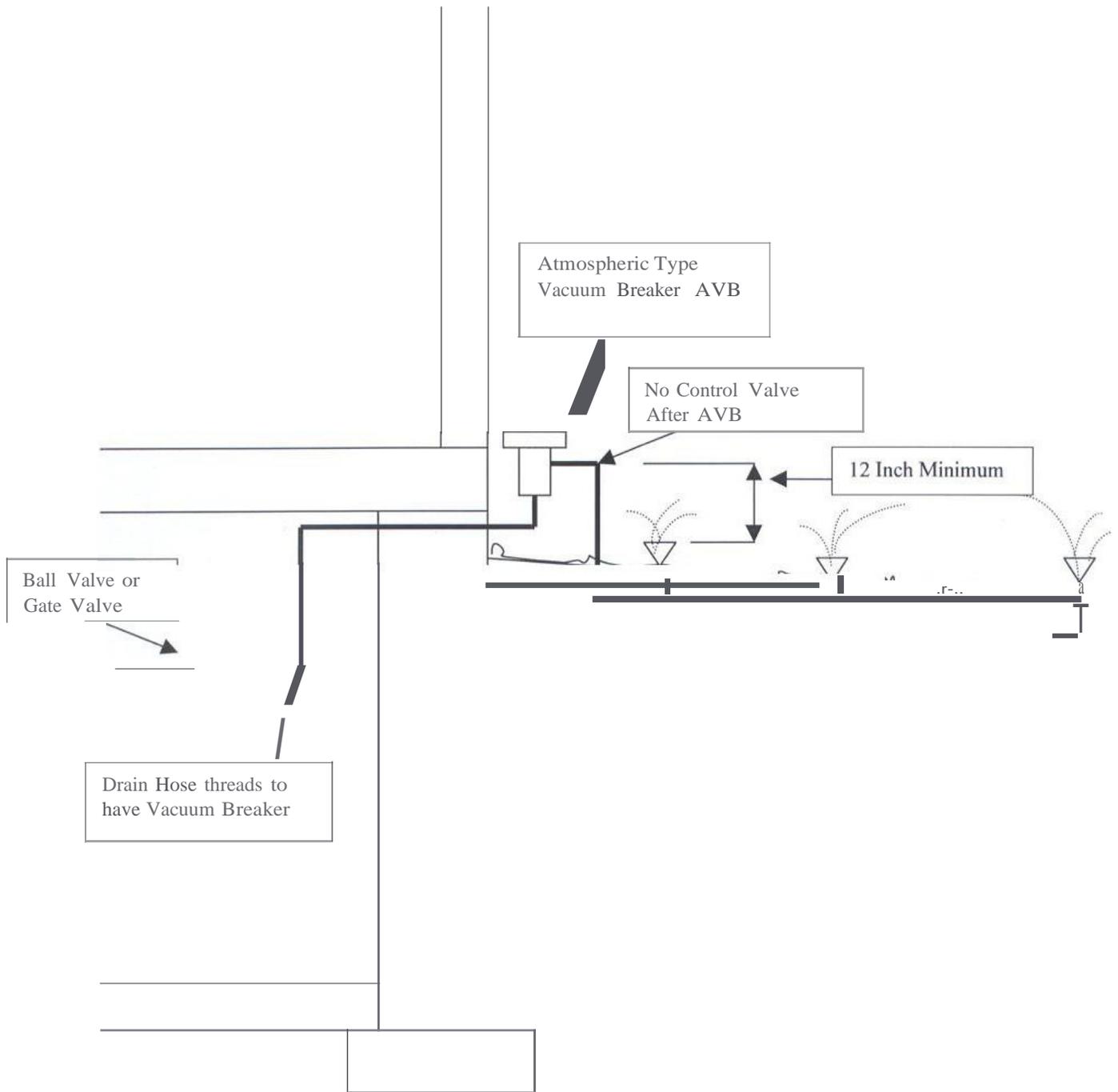
# Lawn Sprinkler Handout

Ph: 763-235-2317

Fax: 763-753-988

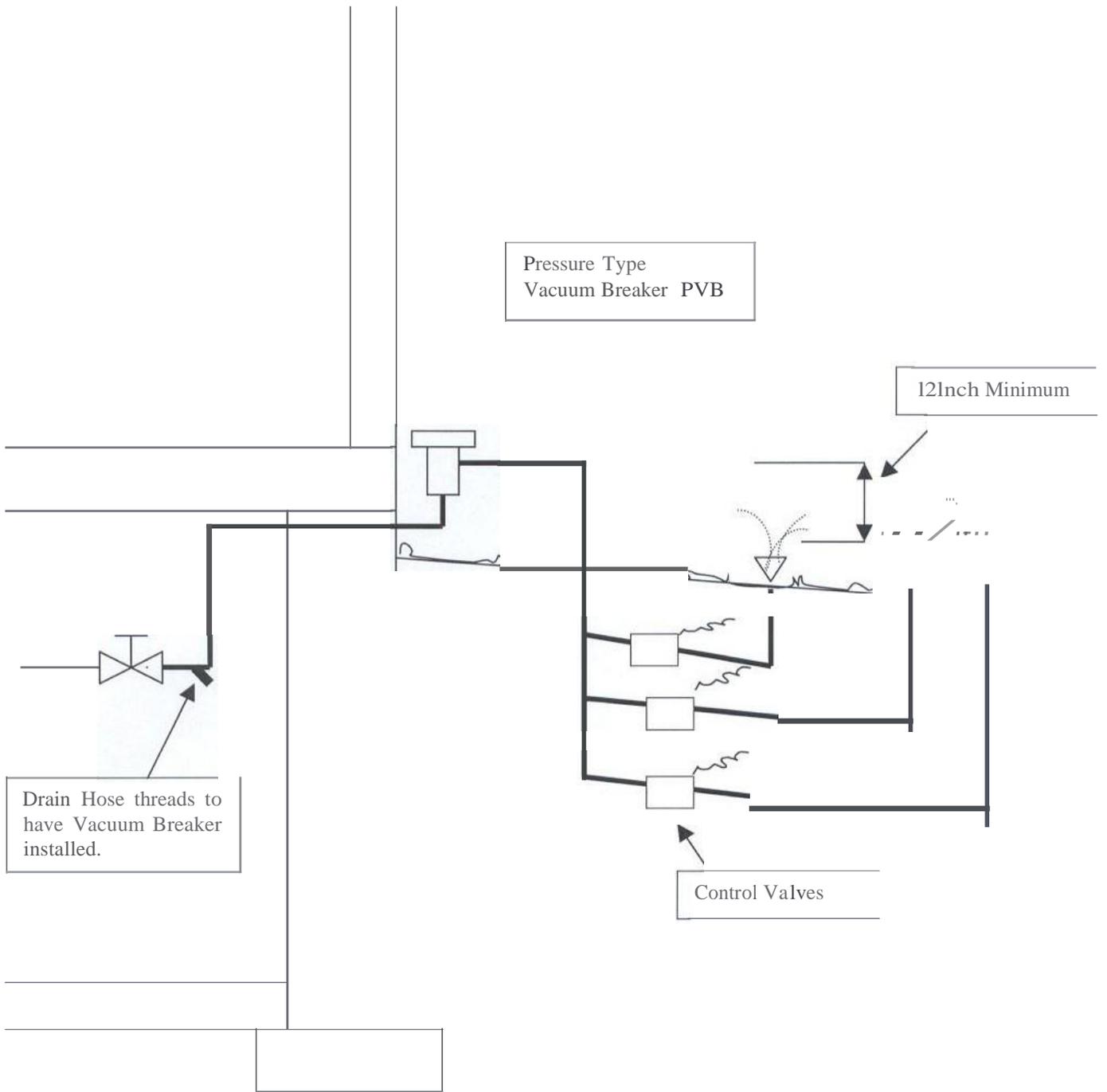
Ph: 763-753-2630



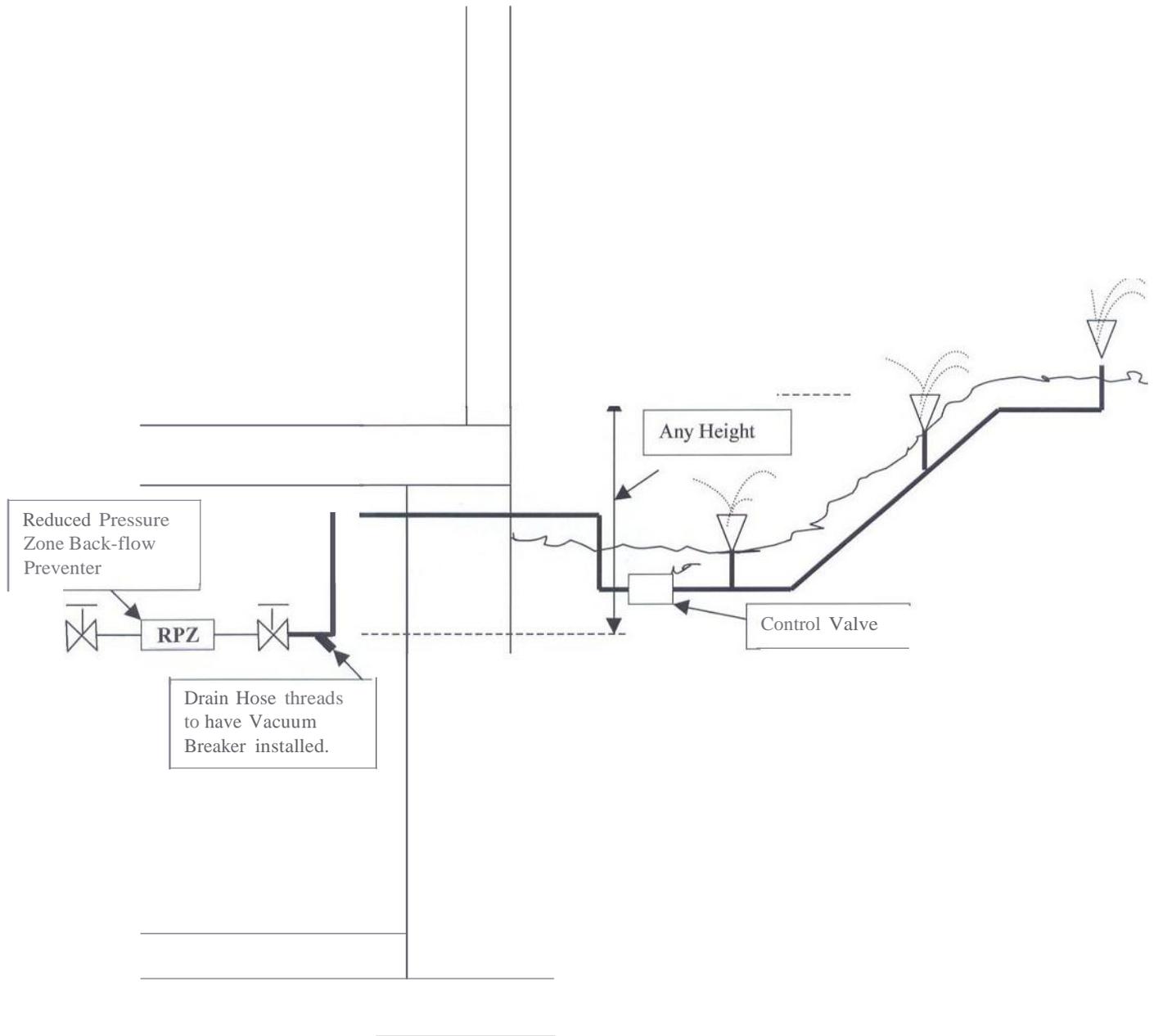


Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker on lawn sprinkler system must be installed at least 12 inches above highest sprinkler outlet and on the non-pressure side of the last control valve.

Vacuum Breakers  
Pressure Type  
PVB



Pressure Vacuum Breaker on lawn sprinkler system must be installed at least 12 inches above highest sprinkler outlet and may be subject to constant static pressure.



A Reduced Pressure Zone type back-flow preventer must be installed on lawn sprinkler systems when any sprinkler outlet is higher than the back-flow preventer or when the system is designed to add chemicals or fertilizers. (May be subject to constant static pressure, back pressure, and back syphonage.) Use RPZ as last back-flow preventer if AVB-PVB will not work. Must test RPZ upon installation, every year and rebuild every 5 years. Contractors and homeowners installing RPZ back-flow preventers in the City of St. Francis are required to inform the Building Official and provide details of their testing and inspection program