

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

TIPS FOR SEWERAGE CUSTOMERS



During Hurricane Ivan, some customers experienced issues with sewage backing up into their properties. This occurred because of the loss of electrical power and/or due to flooding of the surrounding area. **As Hurricane Season begins on 1 June, the Authority would like to remind you of the steps you can take to protect your property from sewage backflow.**

PERMANENT: INSTALL A SEWAGE BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE

Customers may consider installing a **sewage backflow prevention device**. There are various types of backflow prevention devices available (the typical cost is around CI\$150.00 each). These backwater sanitary valves (“backwater valves”) are designed to protect homes from reverse flow of sewage and allow flow of sewage in one direction only – away from the house.

These valves are typically installed somewhere on the sewer pipe outside the house, between the house and the public sewerage system. Property owners are warned, however, that **these devices require regular maintenance and inspection** to ensure that they do not become blocked or stuck in the “open” position.

Should you choose to install a backwater valve, installation should only be carried out by a knowledgeable, **licenced plumber**.

TEMPORARY: INSTALL SCREWED-IN PLUGS

Customers may also consider installing screwed-in plugs in showers and floor drains on the ground floor immediately prior to a hurricane. Even using this method, however, toilets and sinks may still be vulnerable to overflow.

All sewerage customers are strongly encouraged to **consult with a licenced plumber well before the threat of a storm** to learn more about how these devices work, what maintenance will be required to ensure they operate as intended, and what option(s) will best suit their property to limit sewage backflow in the event of flooding due to a hurricane.

Please note that the Water Authority accepts no responsibility for any/all sewerage infrastructure upstream of the connection to the public sewerage line.



Water Authority - Cayman
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Do you have any questions regarding this notice? Please feel free to visit email us at corporate.communications@waterauthority.ky or message us via social media!

