CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: August 11, 2014

To: Brian Kischnick, City Manager

From: Timothy Richnak, Public Works Director

Subject: 2014 Residential Cross Connection Program Update

Background

Under the Michigan Safe Water Drinking Act, 1976 PA 399 (MCL 325.1001), the MDEQ is charged with the promulgation of rules to protect drinking water, and more specifically to prevent cross connections that may contaminate the public water supply systems. Under Administrative Rule 325.11401, all communities are required to implement a program for the removal of all existing cross connections and the prevention of all future cross connections.

The City of Troy implemented a three year rotational inspection and testing schedule, requiring the west 1/3 of the City to obtain inspections in 2014. The inspection and testing has progressed with a response from 49% (3319) of the residents (6824 notifications) that received notices in this program year. Of the 3319 responses 2066 were identified to have a backflow assembly. There were 1486 assembles that passed the test and 580 assembles that failed, resulting in a failure rate of 28%.

During the inspection and testing, a residential sprinkler system connected to the City water system was identified to have a pump added to the system downstream of the backflow assembly. This pump (Pictured below) was drawing untreated water from a local pond. The backflow assembly that was on the system was not of the type required to protect the City water supply from backflow. In the process of working with the resident they decided to separate their sprinkler system from the City water supply. This was a significant cross connection that is being removed from the City water supply.

Direction

The program will emphasize education during this initial 3 year testing and inspection period. After the 3 year period, city staff will evaluate the program, solicit public input and determine the best course of action to protect the public water supply and balance resident interests.