

WARNING

During the construction and the installation of a meter being set by the Decatur County Rural Water Corporation we must take this opportunity to inform you of a potential hazard that exists in relation to a dual check valve installed at your meter and at your hot water heater.

Water heaters are installed with a temperature and pressure valve (T & P), which is designed to relieve excessive water temperature or pressure. Also, aiding in this control of excessive heat and pressure is a condition known as thermal expansion which allows extremely hot water to backflow into water main lines, mixing with the cold water and dissipating the heat.

However, when a backflow prevention device is installed on a household water service line, the water cannot go back into the water system. This leaves the T & P valve as the only release route for overheated water.

If a hot water heater thermostat becomes defective, it allows the water temperature to increase to more than 212 degrees, and the T & P valve fails, your domestic water can become "superheated". Superheated water can cause water heaters to explode and endanger lives and or property or could allow scalding steam to be released from faucets upon personal use.

Decatur County Rural Water Corporation recommends that you inspect your T & P valve periodically. Also, a licensed plumber can inspect, repair, or replace your T & P valve to ensure your safety.

Thermal expansion chambers and pressure relief toilet ball cock assemblies can provide additional protection.

Should you have questions or desire more information, please feel free to contact office at 812-663-3119.