

**ASME A112.14.1-2003**  
(Revision of ANSI A112.14.1M-1975)

# **BACKWATER VALVES**

**AN AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**



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Mechanical Engineers

A N A M E R I C A N N A T I O N A L S T A N D A R D

# BACKWATER VALVES

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# FOREWORD

The American National Standards Committee A112, Plumbing Materials and Equipment, was established on July 27, 1955. Its first organizational meeting was held on July 22, 1958, and Panel No. 14 was created on May 1, 1964, to establish standards for interceptors, separators, and backwater valves. Its charter was as follows: the recommendation of suitable existing standards in cooperation with interested sponsors, or the development of adequate new standards as needed for interceptors, separators, and backwater valves as used or installed in plumbing systems.

The A112 Committee underwent a number of organizational changes over the years and is currently identified as ASME Standards Committee A112. Its Panel 14 working group, with the responsibility for backwater valves, was redesignated Project Team 14.1. The Project Team met twice to prepare this revision, which now includes criteria from the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials' (IAPMO) Product Standard 38.

Suggestions for the improvement of this Standard are welcome. They should be sent to The American Society of Mechanical Engineers; Attn: Secretary, A112 Main Committee; Three Park Avenue; New York, NY 10016-5990.

This revision was approved by the A112 Main Committee and by the ASME Board on Standardization. It was approved as an American National Standard on December 31, 2003.

# ASME A112 STANDARDS COMMITTEE

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(The following is the roster of the Committee at the time of approval of this Standard.)

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**R. E. White**, Richard E. White and Associates  
**W. C. Whitehead**, Plumbing and Drainage Institute

**A112 PROJECT TEAM 14.1 — METALLIC AND NONMETALLIC  
BACKWATER VALVES**

**W. M. Smith**, *Project Team Leader*, Jay R. Smith Industries, Inc.  
**C. R. Graham**, *Deputy Project Team Leader*, Martech Enterprises  
**W. C. Whitehead**, *Project Team Secretary*, Plumbing and Drainage Institute  
**R. H. Ackroyd**, Rand Engineering  
**J. A. Ballanco**, JB Engineering and Code Consulting  
**R. C. Guinn**, Canplas Industries, Ltd.  
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## CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE A112 COMMITTEE

**General.** ASME Standards are developed and maintained with the intent to represent the consensus of concerned interests. As such, users of this Standard may interact with the Committee by requesting interpretations, proposing revisions, and attending Committee meetings. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Secretary, A112 Standards Committee  
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers  
Three Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10016-5990

**Proposing Revisions.** Revisions are made periodically to the Standard to incorporate changes that appear necessary or desirable, as demonstrated by the experience gained from the application of the Standard. Approved revisions will be published periodically.

The Committee welcomes proposals for revisions to this Standard. Such proposals should be as specific as possible, citing the edition, the paragraph number(s), the proposed wording, and a detailed description of the reasons for the proposal, including any pertinent documentation. When appropriate, proposals should be submitted using the A112 Project Initiation Request Form.

**Interpretations.** Upon request, the A112 Committee will render an interpretation of any requirement of the Standard. Interpretations can only be rendered in response to a written request sent to the Secretary of the A112 Standards Committee.

The request for interpretation should be clear and unambiguous. It is further recommended that the inquirer submit his/her request in the following format:

Subject:	Cite the applicable paragraph number(s) and the topic of the inquiry.
Edition:	Cite the applicable edition of the Standard for which the interpretation is being requested.
Question:	Phrase the question as a request for an interpretation of a specific requirement suitable for general understanding and use, not as a request for an approval of a proprietary design or situation. The inquirer may also include any plans or drawings that are necessary to explain the question; however, they should not contain proprietary names or information.

Requests that are not in this format will be rewritten in this format by the Committee prior to being answered, which may inadvertently change the intent of the original request.

ASME procedures provide for reconsideration of any interpretation when or if additional information that might affect an interpretation is available. Further, persons aggrieved by an interpretation may appeal to the cognizant ASME Committee or Subcommittee. ASME does not “approve,” “certify,” “rate,” or “endorse” any item, construction, proprietary device, or activity.

**Attending Committee Meetings.** The A112 Standards Committee schedules meetings as needed, which are open to the public. Persons wishing to attend any meeting should contact the Secretary of the A112 Standards Committee. The A112 home page contains information on future meeting dates and locations.

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# BACKWATER VALVES

## 1 GENERAL

### 1.1 Scope

This Standard establishes requirements for dimensions, performance requirements, connections, materials and finishes, testing, and marking of backwater valves. Types of backwater valves covered in this Standard include horizontal backwater valves, combination horizontal backwater valves and manual gate valves, terminal backwater valves, combination floor drains with backwater valves, vertical or 90 deg backwater valve, and related products.

### 1.2 Units of Measurement

Values are stated in U.S. Customary units and the International System of Units (SI). The U.S. Customary units shall be considered as the standard.

### 1.3 Illustrations

The figures included in this Standard are intended only to describe and portray typical types of backwater valves and are not intended to restrict design nor to be used for specification purposes.

### 1.4 Reference Standards

The following standards are referenced in this document (unless otherwise specified, the latest edition shall apply):

- ASME B1.20.1, Pipe Threads (Excluding Dryseal)  
 ASME B16.1, Cast Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings  
 Publisher: The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME International), Three Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5990; Order Department: 22 Law Drive, Box 2300, Fairfield, NJ 07007-2300
- ASTM A 48, Grey Iron Castings  
 ASTM A 74, Cast Iron Soil Pipe and Fittings  
 ASTM A 307, Carbon Steel Externally Threaded Fasteners  
 ASTM A 351, Austenitic Steel Castings for High-Temperature Service  
 ASTM A 888, Hubless Cast Iron Soil Pipe and Fittings for Sanitary and Storm Drain, Waste and Vent Piping Applications  
 ASTM B 16, Free Cutting Brass Rod, Bar and Shapes for Use in Screw Machines  
 ASTM B 584, Copper Alloy Sand Castings for General Applications

ASTM C 564, Rubber Gaskets for Cast Iron Soil Pipe and Fittings

ASTM C 1440, Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Elastomeric (TPE) Gasket Materials for Drain, Waste, and Vent (DWV), Sewer, Sanitary and Storm Plumbing Systems

ASTM D 1784, Rigid Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Compounds and Chlorinated Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (CPVC) Compounds

ASTM D 2661, Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Schedule 40 Plastic Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe and Fittings

ASTM D 2665, Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Drain, Waste and Vent Pipe and Fittings

ASTM D 3965, Rigid Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Compounds for Pipe and Fittings

Publisher: The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428

CSA B 181.1, ABS Drain Waste and Vent Pipe and Pipe Fittings

CSA B 181.2, PVC Drain Waste and Vent Pipe and Pipe Fittings

CSA B 182.1, PVC Plastic Drain and Sewer Pipe and Pipe Fittings

CSA B 602, Mechanical Couplings for Drain, Waste, and Vent Pipe and Sewer Pipe

Publisher: Canadian Standards Association, 5060 Spectrum Way, Suite 100, Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 5N6, Canada

### 1.5 Definitions

*backwater valve*: a device installed in building drainage systems utilizing a check valve to prevent backflow. Backwater valves are designed in either normally open position or normally closed position.

*normally open backwater valve*: a backwater valve designed in such a manner as not to interfere with the movement of the air in the drainage system. When installed, the swing check hangs in a normally open position.

*normally closed backwater valve*: a backwater valve designed in such a manner that when installed, the swing check remains closed until flow causes it to open.

*blow hole*: hole in casting due to air or gas in the metal or mold.