

Chemigation System Equipment Requirements



5. Chemical Injection Line Check Valve

Chemical injection line check valve must be located between the point of chemical injection into the irrigation pipeline and chemical injection pump. Valve should be chemically resistant. With a minimum opening pressure of 10 psi, the check valve is needed in order to stop the flow of water from the irrigation system into the chemical supply tank. Also prevents gravity flow from the chemical supply tank through the injection pump & into the irrigation pipeline after an unexpected shutdown.



6. Simultaneous Interlock Device

The irrigation pump and chemical injection pump need to be interlocked so that if the irrigation pump stops, the chemical injection pump will also stop. This interlock prevents the pumping of chemicals from the supply tank into the irrigation pipeline after the irrigation pump stops.



Replacements Any replacement or any alternation of equipment must be reported to Central Platte NRD within 72 hours. The CPNRD must do an inspection. If equipment is in compliance the permit will be continued; if not, the permit will be suspended until compliance is achieved and approved by CPNRD.



State law requires that a chemigation permit must be obtained before a person may legally chemigate.

Non-Permitted Irrigation Systems

The Central Platte NRD is required to make area wide, selective and periodic inspections of non-permitted irrigation systems. *Periodic spot-check inspections are required* to ensure compliance with the Nebraska Chemigation Act.

In cases of irrigator non-compliance, the NRD may apply to district or county court of the county, in which the irrigation system is located, for an inspection warrant to allow CPNRD's employee entry onto the irrigator's property to carry out duties under the Chemigation Act.

CPNRD will investigate complaints concerning non-permitted systems.

REPORTING ACCIDENTS

An actual or suspected accident, related to use of chemigation, must be reported within 24 hours of its discovery.

Call the **Nebraska Department of Environmental Control** at: **(402) 471-2186** or the **Central Platte NRD** at **(308) 385-6282** or **1-800-577-3995** during normal working hours.

After hours, holidays or weekends, call the **Nebraska State Patrol** at **(402) 471-4545**.

Notification should include time of occurrence, quantity and type of material, location, and any corrective or cleanup actions being taken.

CHEMIGATION

Regulations and Requirements of the Nebraska Chemigation Act



An annual permit is **REQUIRED**.

A system must be inspected before a new permit is issued.

Equipment must meet specifications.

Operators must be **CERTIFIED**.



Central Platte
Natural Resources District
215 Kaufman Avenue
Grand Island NE 68803

(308) 385-6282 www.cpnrd.org

Chemigation System Equipment Requirements

There are six equipment requirements listed below that are included in the laws relating to chemigation. These must be in place before being approved for a permit and must be in place and in use during any application.

1. Mainline Check Valve

An irrigation line check valve must be located in the pipeline between the irrigation pump and the point of chemical injection into the irrigation pipeline. Check valve must stop water and chemicals from draining or siphoning back into the irrigation well, when the system is shut down. The check valve must have positive closing action and water tight seal.

2. Vacuum Relief Valve

Vacuum relief valve must be located on the top of the pipeline between the irrigation pump and the mainline check valve. The valve allows air into the pipeline when the water flow stops, preventing a vacuum that could cause siphoning.

3. Inspection Port

Inspection port must be located between the irrigation pump discharge and the mainline check valve. The 4-inch inspection port enables the operator to make a visual inspection for possible leaks of the check valve. Vacuum relief valve connection can often serve as the inspection port.

4. Automatic Low Pressure Drain

Low pressure drain, made of corrosion-resistant material and having at least 3/4" orifice, must be located on bottom of the horizontal pipe between the irrigation pump and the irrigation pipeline check valve. Drain must discharge at least 20 feet from the water source to keep any mixture of water and chemical away from the irrigation source.

NEW PERMITS

Persons who actually apply chemicals through an irrigation system **MUST** be certified by attending a course offered by UNL Extension and passing a written exam. Certification is good for four years, after which a renewal course is required. The NRD should be notified by the permit holder of any change of certified applicators if an accident or violation would occur. **Chemigation systems MUST be inspected before a new permit may be issued.**

INSPECTIONS:

- System must be started & brought to normal operating pressure and shut down.
- Must meet chemigation system requirements.
- Permit holder must be present during the CPNRD's inspection. CPNRD staff will not operate any irrigation or chemigation equipment, nor will they open electrical control boxes.
- Emergency permits may be issued by the CPNRD for a cost of \$500. This permit is valid for 45 days and allows the option of chemigating in an emergency situation.
- Permit needs to be signed by both the permit holder and certified applicator if the applicator is different than permit holder.

RENEWING PERMITS

- Current permits expire on June 1** each year. If you don't receive an application in the mail, call CPNRD at (308)385-6282 before June 1st.
- Renewal permits can be issued without an inspection; however, CPNRD is required to re-inspect systems in operation on a spot-check basis. Inspectors will monitor on a spot-check basis to ensure that systems are in compliance to regulations.
- To Renew Your Permit: send the completed application form and \$20 permit fee to: **CPNRD, 215 Kaufman Ave, Grand Island NE 68803.** Renewal applications received after June 1 must comply with provisions for new permits, including a \$60 permit fee and must have inspection before the permit is issued.
- CPNRD has a 3-year rotation schedule for re-inspections. Notification will be sent to renewal permit holders when their systems need to be re-inspected. **NOTE: *It is the permit holder's responsibility to contact the CPNRD to set up an appointment for re-inspection.*** A **NEW** permit will be required if the system is not inspected before June 1st.

