



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

**Water Pressure Regulators
For Domestic Water Systems**

This Tech Bulletin describes the plumbing code requirements for water pressure reducing valves for domestic water delivery systems when the city water pressure exceeds 80 psi (see IPC & IRC for specific information). The requirements are summarized as follows:

1. A water-pressure reducing valve or regulator conforming to ASSE (American Society of Sanitary Engineering) 1003 with a strainer shall be installed to reduce the pressure in the building water distribution piping to 80 psi static or less.
2. The pressure-reducing valve shall be designed to remain open to permit uninterrupted water flow in case of valve failure.
3. All water-pressure reducing valves, regulators and strainers shall be constructed and installed to permit repair or removal of parts without breaking a pipeline or removing the valve and strainer from the pipeline.
4. For in-ground installations, the reducing valve and/or strainer must be located in a separate valve box at least 12" X 18" X 12 " deep (this will enable the reducing valve and/or strainer repair/service without removal). The bottom of the valve box must be filled with at least 2 inches of pea gravel. There must be at least 6 inches of clearance between the top of the pea gravel and the bottom of the reducing valve and/or strainer.

The following table provides general information on some water-pressure reducing regulators locally available. It is recommended that you contact the City of Arlington Building Inspection Department for review and approval of devices not listed. Please note that there are varying flow capacities at varying pressures for the different products.

Brand	Model¹	Approved for In-ground Installation	Supplemental Expansion Tank Required	External Strainer Required
Watts	U5B-Z3	Y	Y	N
Watts	223-B-Z3	Y	Y	Y
Watts	25AUB-Z3	Y	Y	N
Wilkins	500-SC	Y	Y	Y
Wilkins	600-SC	Y	Y	N
Wilkins	70-SC	Y	Y	Y
Wilkins	BR4-EC-SC	Y	Y	N
Conbraco	36 Series	N	Y	N
Conbraco	36CSS Series	Y	Y	N

¹ All models must be ordered as listed (includes options) in order to satisfy the charts requirements.