

# CITY OF FORT COLLINS MOBILE HOME PARK BACKFLOW PREVENTER INSTALLATION PROJECTS



**Summary:** The Fort Collins Neighborhood Services Dept. was awarded \$147,880 from Larimer County's ARPA Immediate Needs Grant to facilitate the purchase and installation of backflow preventers for mobile home parks (MHP).

## Neighborhoods Served:

65 Homes



Nueva Vida  
MHP

204 Homes



Hickory Village  
MHP

## Project Benefits:

- ➔ Drinking Water Quality Protection
- ➔ Prevention of installation costs being passed onto residents
- ➔ Compliance with state drinking water regulations

The City of Fort Collins Neighborhood Services was awarded \$132,500 from Larimer County's ARPA Immediate Needs Grant to facilitate the purchase and installation of backflow preventers for mobile home parks to preserve water quality in the main drinking water systems operated by Fort Collins-area water utilities and prevent installation costs from impacting residents. Backflow preventers ensure clean drinking water flows in one direction, to the residences, and cannot flow backwards from privately-owned infrastructure. These devices recently became required for most mobile home parks in our area by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Historically, infrastructure and maintenance costs are charged to residents as a direct assessment or as a rent increase. By accessing funds for this required upgrade, City Staff was able to help protect water quality for the broad community and keep rent more affordable for Nueva Vida and Hickory Village Mobile Home Parks, meaning this project benefitted almost 300 households.

The overall cost of installation was higher than anticipated due to multiple factors: heavy rainfall for many days in a row at the time of construction impacted the excavation work and required additional labor and equipment. Aging park infrastructure and deferred maintenance provided additional practical challenges to this work. The Board of County Commissioners generously agreed to cover the additional \$15,380 needed for the installations, which were completed in May and June of 2023.