

A quick and simple annual check that protects your plumbing from too-high water pressure

A "water pressure regulator" is one of your home's functional attachments—like a water heater or an air-conditioning unit. Thus, it's important to regularly test it to prevent damage that may result from high water pressure. Here's how, using a simple "test gauge" device:

STEP 1: Locate the water pressure regulator. A typical location is shown below in the background photo. In Figure A is a close-up view of a typical water pressure regulator. It's usually located at or near the entry point for water to come into the building from the water main.

STEP 2: Locate the water spigot near the water pressure regulator. Attach the test gauge (close-up of typical gauge in Figure B) to the spigot.

STEP 3: Turn on the water to get a pressure reading. A reading of 55 to 60 is in the "normal" range.

STEP 4: If an adjustment is needed, locate the "adjusting screw" at the top of the regulator (see Figure A).

STEP 5: Before turning the adjusting screw, loosen the "locking nut" in Figure A.

STEP 6: Slowly turn the adjusting screw (no more than one full turn at a time). *Clockwise to increase* the water pressure. Or, *counter-clockwise to decrease* water pressure.

STEP 7: If, after adjustments, the gauge needle doesn't move, the water pressure regulator may not be functioning properly. Contact a qualified plumber if you're unsure how to replace this regulator.

Have other questions about your water pressure regulator? Contact the Public Works Department at 776-7337. Gauges are usually available at a plumbing or hardware store. As a public service, the Public Works Department loans gauges **AT NO CHARGE** to Morgan Hill residents.

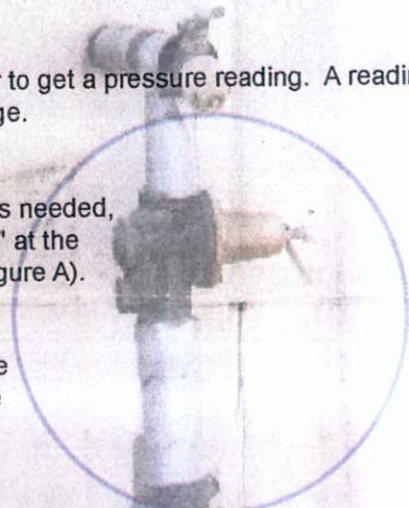


Figure B



Figure A