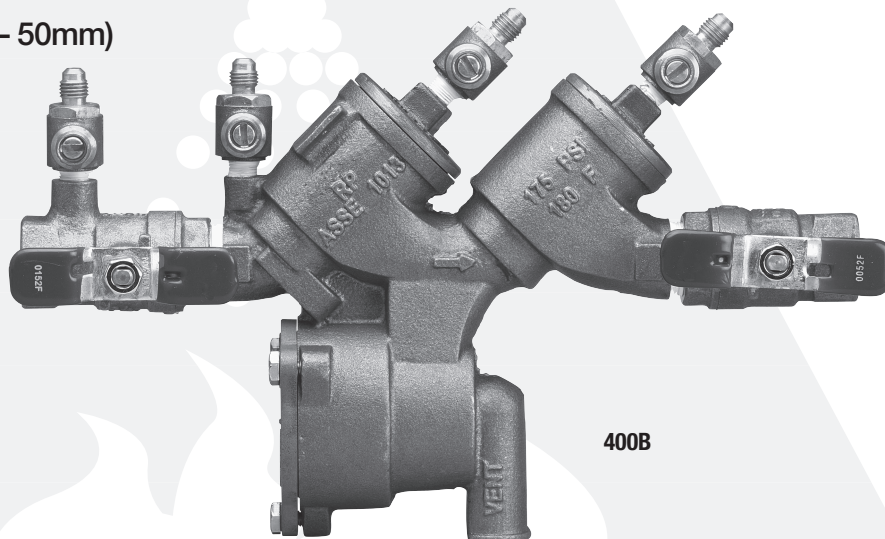


Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Series 400B

Reduced Pressure Zone

Sizes: 3/4" – 2" (20 – 50mm)



⚠ WARNING



Read this Manual **BEFORE** using this equipment.

Failure to read and follow all safety and use information can result in death, serious personal injury, property damage, or damage to the equipment.

Keep this Manual for future reference.



⚠ WARNING

You are required to consult the local building and plumbing codes prior to installation. If the information in this manual is not consistent with local building or plumbing codes, the local codes should be followed. Inquire with governing authorities for additional local requirements.

⚠ WARNING

Need for Periodic Inspection/Maintenance: This product must be tested periodically in compliance with local codes, but at least once per year or more as service conditions warrant. If installed on a fire suppression system, all mechanical checks, such as alarms and backflow preventers, should be flow tested and inspected in accordance with NFPA 13 and/or NFPA 25. All products must be retested once maintenance has been performed. Corrosive water conditions, and/or unauthorized adjustments or repair could render the product ineffective for the service intended. Regular checking and cleaning of the product's internal components helps assure maximum life and proper product function.

Testing

For field testing procedure, refer to Ames installation sheets IS-A-ATG-1 found on www.amesfirewater.com.

For other repair kits and service parts, refer to our Backflow Prevention Products Repair Kits & Service Parts price list PL-A-RP-BPD found on www.amesfirewater.com.

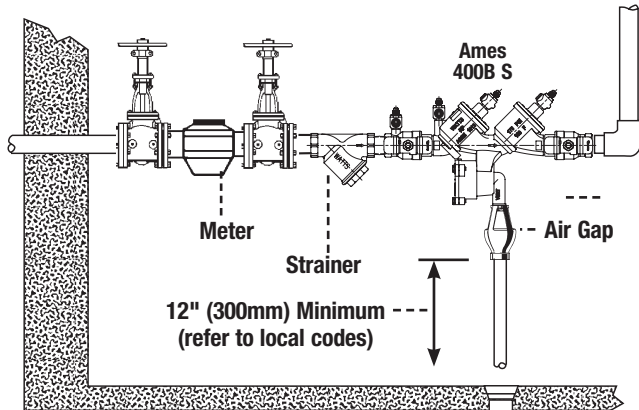
For technical assistance, contact your local Ames representative.

Installation Guidelines

Ames Series 400B Reduced Pressure Zone Assemblies

Indoor Installation

For indoor installations, make sure the Series 400B is easily accessible to facilitate testing and servicing. Do not install in concealed locations. If the location of the Series 400B is parallel and close to the wall, make sure the test cocks are easily accessible, and the drain line can adequately drain if required. An air gap and drain line (see literature ES-A-AG/EL/TC) are piped from the relief valve connection as shown, allowing evidence of discharge to be clearly visible and preventing the occurrence of water damage.



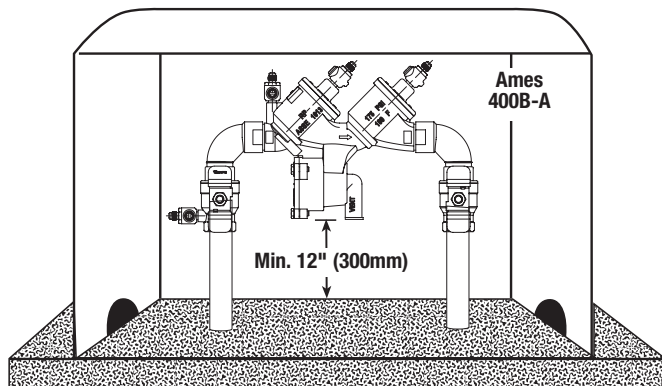
Outdoor, Above Ground Installation

For outdoor installations, it is recommended that you install the Series 400B-A where there are no freezing conditions and above ground whenever possible.

You must install the Series 400B in an accessible location to facilitate testing and servicing. The installation must also allow for adequate drainage from the air gap and the discharge line if needed.

WARNING

1. Do not allow the drain line to empty directly into a drainage ditch, sewer system, or sump.
2. Do not install the Series 400B in any location where any part of the unit could become submerged in standing water.



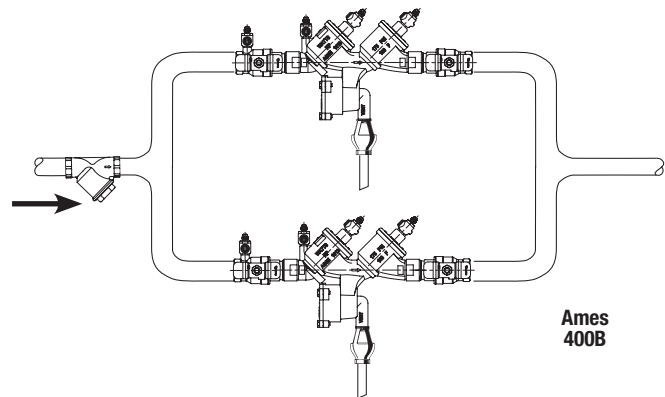
Parallel Installation

For parallel installations, you can install two or more small sized Series 400B's (when approved) to serve a large supply pipe main. You can use this type of installation in an application where increased capacity beyond that provided by a single valve is required. Additionally, this type of installation permits testing and/or servicing of a single valve without shutting down the complete line.

The number of Series 400B units installed in parallel should be determined by the engineer's judgement, based on the operating conditions of a specific application.

NOTICE

The total capacity of all the units installed in the application should equal or exceed that required by the system.



- A. Shutoff Valves: If you remove the shutoff valves from the Series 400B, reassemble the shutoff valve with the test cock mounted on the inlet side of the unit.
- B. Always install the Series 400B in an accessible location to facilitate testing and servicing (See page 2). Check the state and local codes to ensure that you install the backflow preventer in compliance with those codes, such as the proper height above the ground.
- C. It is recommended that you install a strainer ahead of the Series 400B assemblies to protect the internal components from unnecessary fouling.

CAUTION

Do not install a Series 400B with a strainer in rarely used water lines, such as a fire sprinkler system which is only used during emergencies.

Start Up: Close the downstream shutoff. Open the upstream slowly and fill the valve. When the valve is filled, open the downstream shutoff slowly, and fill the water supply system. This is necessary to avoid water hammer and/or shock damage.

- D. Vent the air gap and drain line from the relief valve in accordance with code requirements. Terminate discharge approximately 12" (300mm) above the ground or through an air gap piped to a floor drain.

Installation Guidelines

⚠ WARNING

Do not allow the drain line to empty directly into a drainage ditch, sewer system, or sump.

NOTICE

Relief Valve Discharge Rates

The Series 400B air gap and drain line terminating above a floor drain can accommodate any moderate discharge or nuisance spitting through the relief valve. However, to prevent water damage in the case of a catastrophic failure, you may need to design the floor drain size to accommodate the increased discharge. Refer to Figure 1 for maximum relief valve discharge rates, size, and capacity of typical floor drains.

NOTICE

DO NOT reduce the size of the drain line from the air gap fitting. The drain line must remain at full line size.

- E. After initial installation of the Series 400B, a discharge from the relief valve may occur due to dirt and pipe compounds. This may be due to inadequate initial flushing of the pipe lines. If flushing the valve does not clear the unit, remove the first check valve and clean thoroughly, using the procedures in "Servicing First & Second Check Valves" on page 5.

NOTICE

Periodic relief valve discharge may occur on dead end service applications, such as boiler feed lines or cooling tower makeup lines. This may be due to fluctuating supply pressure during a static or no flow condition. To avoid this discharge, install a spring-loaded, rubber seated check valve ahead of the backflow assembly.

- F. It is recommended that you not place the Series 400B in a pit or at a depth below the ground level, unless absolutely necessary. If an installation requires below ground level installation, a modified pit installation is recommended, as well as the approval of local codes. In such cases, provisions should be made to always vent the drain line above the flood level. In the case of a pit drain, ensure an adequate air gap exists between the bottom of the drain line and the bottom of the pit.
- G. It is recommended that periodic inspection of the Series 400B be done to check for any discharge from the relief valve. This discharge is a visual indication that the valve needs cleaning or repair. In addition, it is recommended that periodic testing of the valve be done in compliance with local codes to ensure its proper operation.

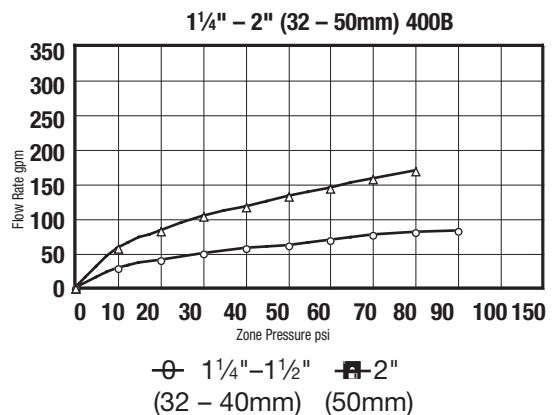
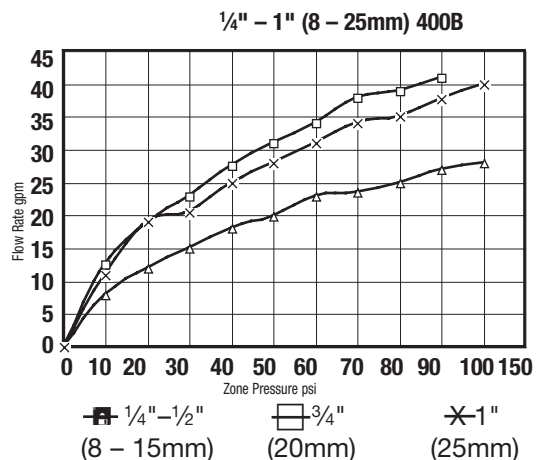
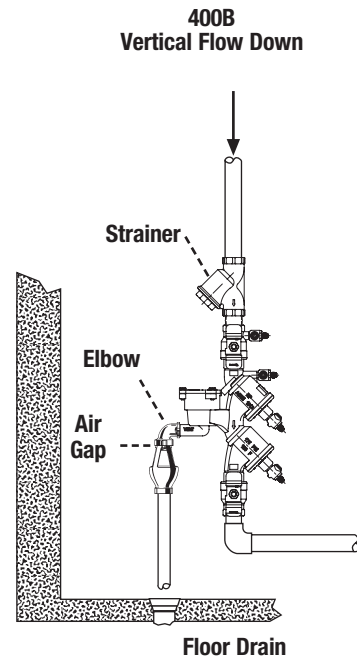
The relief vent discharges water during no-flow periods when:

- (1) the first check valve is fouled; or
- (2) the inlet pressure to the check valve drops sufficiently due to upstream pressure fluctuations. This then affects the required operating differential between the inlet pressure and the reduced pressure zone; or
- (3) the second check is fouled during emergency backflow or resulting from a water hammer condition.

NOTICE

When installing the Series 400B on fire prevention systems, special considerations are required.

Fire Protection System Installations: The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) Guidelines require a confirming flow test be conducted by a certified tester whenever a "main line" valve is installed, such as a shutoff valve or a backflow preventer.



| TYPICAL FLOW RATES AS SIZED BY FLOOR DRAIN MANUFACTURERS: | |
|---|---------------------|
| 2" (50 mm) 55 GPM | 5" (125 mm) 350 GPM |
| 3" (80 mm) 112 GPM | 6" (150 mm) 450 GPM |
| 4" (100 mm) 170 GPM | 8" (200 mm) 760 GPM |

Figure 1

Maintenance Instructions

⚠ WARNING Depressurize valve before servicing.

No special tools are required to service the Series 400B 1/4" – 2" (8 – 50mm).

Before servicing, make sure the water is turned off or shutoff valves are closed.

The following procedures provide information for replacing the diaphragm, the relief valve disc, and the relief valve seat. It is recommended that you visually inspect these parts to determine if a replacement or a cleaning is required.

Disassembling the Relief Valve

1. Remove the relief valve cover bolts while holding the cover down.
2. Turn the cover counterclockwise for 1/4 turn, and lift it straight off while still applying pressure to the cover with your hand.

⚠ WARNING

Make sure you apply pressure to the cover as you lift it straight off. Due to the release of pressure when removing the cover, the relief valve spring may eject quickly.

3. Remove the relief valve assembly (includes cover O-ring, stem and diaphragm assembly).
4. Remove the relief valve spring.
5. Remove the pressed in relief valve seat and seat O-ring.

Replacing the Diaphragm

6. Using a wrench, loosen the diaphragm assembly by turning the hex bolt counterclockwise.
7. Remove the diaphragm and replace with a new diaphragm if required, or clean the existing diaphragm. The molded step of the diaphragm should point down toward the relief valve stem.
8. Using a wrench, reassemble the diaphragm assembly by turning the hex bolt clockwise to tighten.

Replacing the Relief Valve Disc and Seat

9. Using a phillips screwdriver, remove the screw in the relief valve disc and replace the disc if required, or clean the existing disc.
10. Place the screw back into the relief valve disc and tighten.
11. Replace the relief valve seat with a new seat if required, or clean the existing seat.

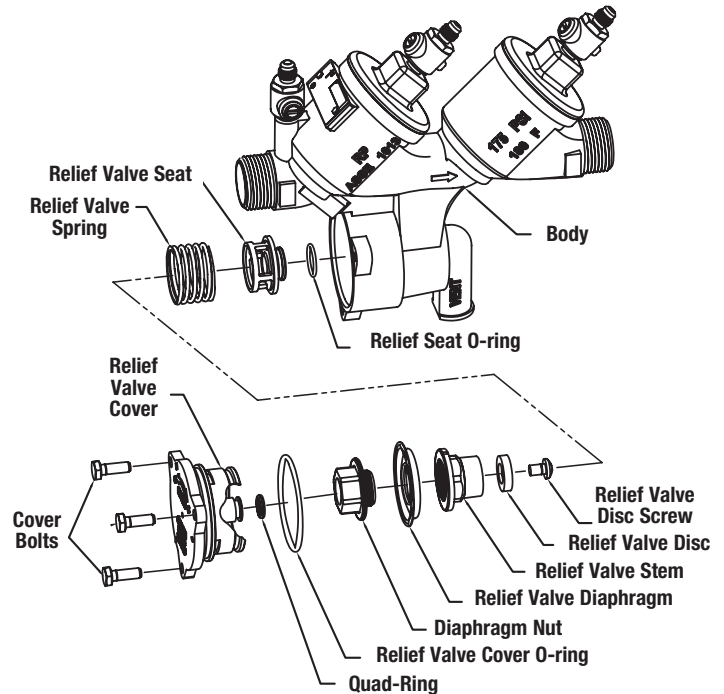
Reassembling the Relief Valve

12. Place the relief valve seat back into the chamber bore.
13. Slide the diaphragm assembly into the relief valve seat.
14. Place the spring onto the diaphragm assembly.
15. Place the cover O-ring on the diaphragm assembly.
16. Line up the grooves on the relief valve cover with the grooves in the relief valve body and turn the cover clockwise 1/4 turn to seat the cover.
17. Using a wrench, place the bolts back into the cover and tighten.

⚠ CAUTION

If the cover does not lie flat against the relief valve body, the diaphragm assembly is not installed properly and damage can result. Remove the bolts and cover, realign the diaphragm assembly, and place the cover back on the relief valve body.

18. Open the shutoff valves.



For repair kits and parts, refer to our Backflow Prevention Products Repair Kits & Service Parts price list PL-A-RP-BPD found on www.amesfirewater.com.

Maintenance Instructions

⚠ WARNING Depressurize valve before servicing.

No special tools are required to service the Series 400B 1/4" – 2" (8 – 50mm). Before servicing, make sure the water is turned off or shutoff valves are closed.

1. Close shutoff valves up and downstream of the valve.
2. Using an appropriate sized wrench, loosen the check valve cover. Unscrew the check valve cover and lift it off.
3. Remove the spring.
4. Lift out the disc holder assembly from the body of the valve.
5. To reverse the seat disc, unscrew the disc screw and disassemble the disc washer and disc rubber from the disc holder assembly. Reverse the disc rubber so the opposite face is showing.
6. Assemble the disc screw through the disc washer and disc rubber and screw it into the disc holder.
7. To replace the seat module, pull the seat module out of the body by gripping at the reinforcement ring. Replace the seat module with the new seat by placing it into the body seat bore.

NOTICE

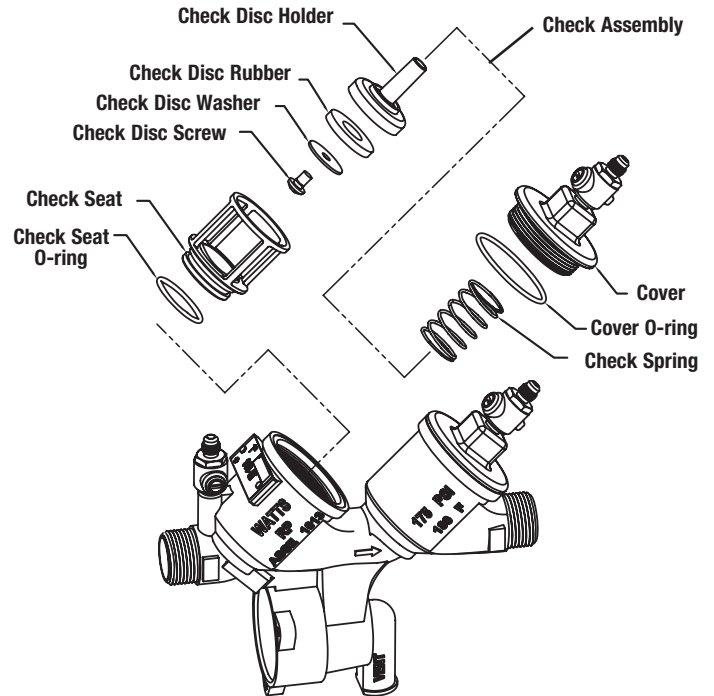
When you tighten the cover in Step 12, the cover will engage the seat module properly.

8. Insert the disc holder assembly back into the seat module.
9. Replace the spring - ensuring that it seats properly on the disc holder.

⚠ WARNING

The first check valve has a heavy weight spring. The second check valve has a lighter weight spring. When reassembling the check valves, make sure you install the correct spring into the correct check valve.

10. Place the cover onto the spring with the internal guide on the cover positioned inside the end coil.
11. Screw the cover onto the valve body.
12. Tighten the cover using the appropriate sized wrench.
13. Service the second check valve using Steps 2 through 12.
14. Slowly open shutoff valves.



For repair kits and parts, refer to our Backflow Prevention Products Repair Kits & Service Parts price list PL-A-RP-BPD found on www.amesfirewater.com.

Testing Procedures

Reduced Pressure Zone Assemblies must be inspected and tested periodically, in accordance with local codes, to ensure proper operation of check valves within the unit. A differential pressure gauge is recommended for Test No. 1 rather than a manometer for the following reasons:

1. It utilizes minimum time to perform the test.
2. It eliminates the necessity of closing the inlet ball valve which could release pipe scale and foreign matter into the backflow preventer.
3. Only a slight amount of water is "spilled" in test.
4. A mercury manometer could cause a pollution hazard.

Test Set Up

Reduced Pressure Zone Assembly

- Close Valves A, B and C on Test Kit.
- Connect high side hose to test cock #2
- Connect low side hose to test cock #3. Close shutoff #2.
- Open test cocks #2 and #3.
- Open vent valve C.
- Open "high" valve A and bleed to atmosphere until all the air is expelled.
- Close valve A. Open "low" valve B and bleed to atmosphere until all air is expelled. Close "low" valve B. Close "vent" valve C.
- Connect vent hose to test cock #4.

Test Procedure

Reduced Pressure Zone Assembly

Field Test Equipment Required

Ames Test Kit

Test No. 1

Purpose: To test Check Valve No. 2 for tightness against reverse flow.

Requirements: Valve must be tight against reverse flow under all pressure differentials. Slowly open the "high" valve A and the "vent" valve C, and keep the "low" valve B closed. Open test cock #4. Indicated pressure differential will decrease slightly. If pressure differential continues to decrease (until the vent opens) check valve #2 is reported as "leaking".

Test No. 2

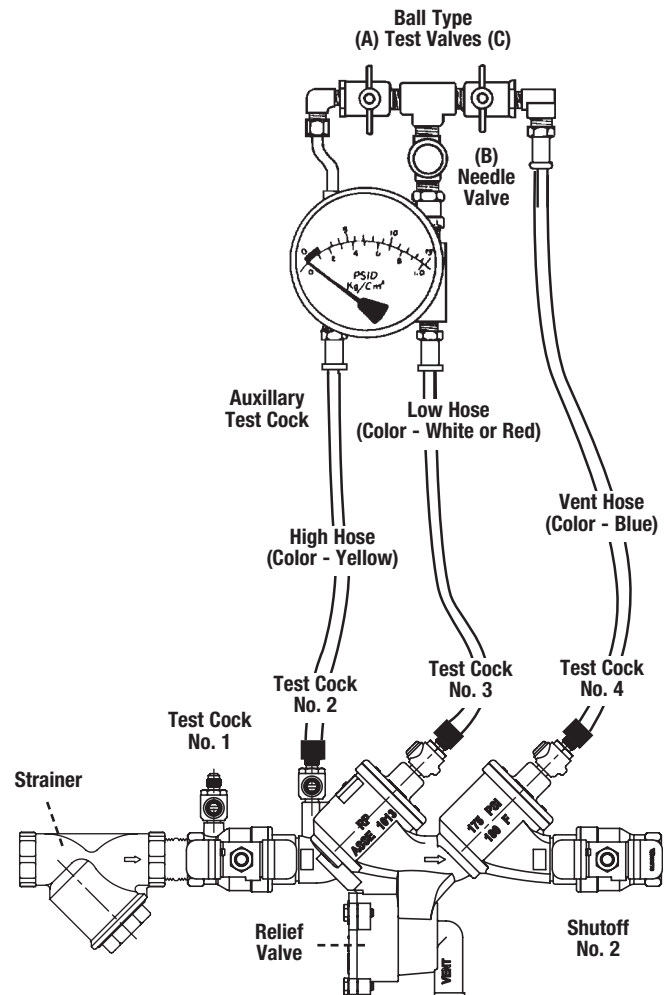
Purpose: To test shutoff #2 for tightness.

Requirements: After passing Test No. 1, continue to Test No. 2 by closing test cock #2. The indicated pressure differential will decrease slightly. If pressure differential continues to decrease (approaching "zero"), shutoff #2 is reported to be "leaking".

Test No. 3

Purpose: To test Check Valve No. 1 for tightness.

Requirements: Valve must be tight against reverse flow under all pressure differentials. Close "high" valve A and open test cock #2. Close test cock #4. Disconnect vent hose at test cock #4. Open valves B and C, bleeding to atmosphere. Then, closing valve B restores the system to a normal static condition. Observe the pressure differential gauge. If there is a decrease in the indicated value, Check Valve No. 1 is reported as "leaking".



400B S

Test No. 4

Purpose: To test operation of pressure differential relief valve.

Requirements: The pressure differential relief valve must operate to maintain the "zone" between the two check valves at least 2psi less than the supply pressure. Close "vent" valve C. Open "high" valve A. Open the "low" valve B very slowly until the differential gauge needle starts to drop. Hold the valve at this position and observe the gauge reading at the moment the first discharge is noted from the relief valve. Record this as the opening differential pressure of the relief valve.

NOTICE

It is important that the differential gauge needle drops slowly. Close test cocks #2 and #3. Use "vent" hose to relieve pressure from test kit by opening valves A, B and C. Remove all test equipment and open shutoff #2.

For additional information, visit our web site at: www.amesfirewater.com

WARNING: This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.
For more information: www.watts.com/prop65

Limited Warranty: Ames Fire & Waterworks (the "Company") warrants each product to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal usage for a period of one year from the date of original shipment. In the event of such defects within the warranty period, the Company will, at its option, replace or recondition the product without charge.

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