
PROTECT DRINKING WATER THERMAL EXPANSION

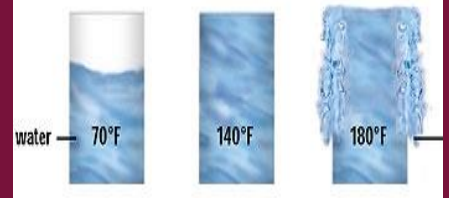
Water expands as its temperature rises. This expansion sometimes causes water to flow back into the public water system. When water is prevented from flowing back into the public water system this is called a “closed system”. In a closed system expanding water creates increased pressure in your plumbing system.

In Surfside all services are “closed systems” since meters are installed with dual check valves which are designed to prevent water from flowing back into the public water system. Members who have installed backflow assemblies at the meter also have closed systems.

Thermal expansion can be dangerous in closed systems. Water heater thermostats normally maintain the water temperature at about 130 degrees. However, if the thermostat fails the water within the tank can become “superheated”. When a faucet is opened, this superheated water instantly turns to steam. As the pressure within the tank continues to build up, the tank could explode.

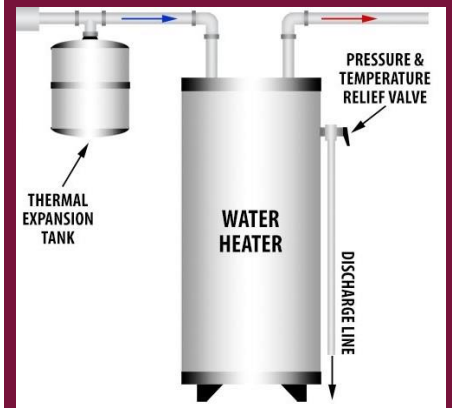
WHAT YOU SHOULD DO You should check to see that an **expansion tank** and **temperature and pressure relief valve (T & P Valve)** are in place. The T & P Valve should be periodically inspected to ensure that it is properly operating. The above work can best be done by a licensed plumber.

Surfside Homeowners Association
Cross-Connection Control Program



Thermal Expansion

Current plumbing code requires new water heaters to have two safety checks against thermal expansion: a T&P valve and a thermal expansion tank.



Water heaters without a properly functioning T&P valve can EXPLODE!

**FOR QUESTIONS
PLEASE CONTACT**

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