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Dear Senna Hills Customer:

In 2016, the MUD's engineer completed a survey of water pressures in the MUD's service lines to our residences. The survey determined that most areas of Senna Hills are expected to have water pressure that is higher than recommended in homes. The West Travis County Public Utility Agency provides Senna Hills' water pressure. The water pressure from the PUA has to be high enough to reach all of its service area – we are in their SH 71 service area – which is quite hilly. Homes that are on a downhill will experience higher water pressure than homes higher on a hill. The PUA water pressure must remain at the levels provided to insure adequate pressure is delivered to higher elevation properties within Senna Hills as well as to fire hydrants.

What should my home's water pressure be? The maximum recommended residential water pressure is 80 psi. Some experts recommend reducing residential pressure to as low as 50 psi for water conservation. If the water pressure at your meter exceeds 80 psi, you are strongly urged to install and maintain a pressure reducing valve to control the pressure within your residence to no more than 80 psi.

Do I need a pressure reducing valve? It is very likely that you need a pressure reducing valve. The average pressure coming into Senna Hills from the PUA is 135 psi. Attached is a map. The shaded areas, which are most of the community, are areas where water pressures in excess of 80 psi are expected, due to topography. If you are within one of the shaded areas, we urge you to verify that you have a pressure reducing valve installed and that it is functioning properly. Installation and maintenance of a pressure reducing valve is a homeowner responsibility.

Why should I reduce my water pressure? High water pressure can be damaging -- causing water heaters to leak; making water pipes bang; and making toilets run and faucets drip. It can cause excessive dishwasher and clothes washer noise, as well as shortening the life of water supply hoses to washing machines and ice makers.

Where would my PRV be located? The PRV should be located near your water meter, possibly inside your water meter box. If you are uncertain whether a PRV has been installed at your property, you may need to contact a plumber to help locate the valve and test your home's pressure. The picture below shows where your PRV should be inside the water meter box.

How do I know if my PRV is working properly? You can test your water pressure by using a water pressure gauge at a hose bib. A water pressure gauge can be purchased for \$10-15 at your local home improvement store.

Kay Olsen Operations for Senna Hills MUD Inframark





