



# City of Raymore

Building Inspection Division  
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**Code Interpretation:** 2012 IRC Interpretation 06

**Date:** Updated 1/8/2014

**Code/ Edition:** 2012 International Residential Code; 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code

**Section(s):** IRC 2903.5; UPC 609.10

**Subject:** Clarification on allowable devices to prevent water hammer and the required location of such devices.

**Question:** Both code provisions require the use of a mechanical water hammer arrestor adjacent to a quick-closing (IRC) or quick acting (UPC) valve. The UPC does not include a definition for these valves. Can air chambers be used in place of the water hammer arrestor and what types of valves are considered quick-closing or quick-acting?

**Answer:** No

**Commentary:** The IRC defines a quick-closing valve as one that closes automatically when released manually or one that is controlled by a mechanical means for fast-action closing such as a solenoid valve. The same definition applies to the UPC.

Hard piped air chambers are no longer recognized as listed mechanical arrestor devices. All listed water hammer arrestors shall be installed and located in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions which will dictate the maximum distance between the listed device and the fixture or fixtures served. Hard piped air chambers may be installed at other locations where water hammer arrestors are not required by code.

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