



PROTECT OUR WATER

Backflow and Cross Connection Control

What is a cross connection?

Any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and the public drinking water system. Common potential cross connection locations within a residential home include:



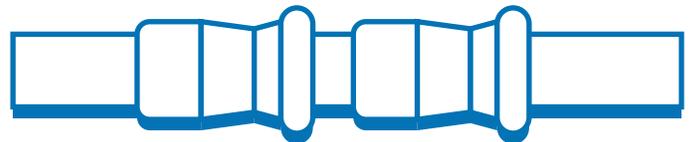
- Irrigation systems
- Garden hose connections to chemical solution aspirators
- Swimming Pools
- Hose Bibbs
- Hoses submerged in a laundry tub, swimming pool, or bucket used to wash the car
- Private Wells
- Cisterns

What is Backflow?

The public water system that feeds drinking water to your home relies on water pressure to keep water flowing into your home and potential contaminants from cross connections from flowing into the water system. A sudden or unexpected drop in the system water pressure to a level below the pressure of any potential source of contamination can cause the pipe flow to reverse. When this backflow occurs, potentially non-potable water flows backwards through the consumer's facility and home and into the public water system, creating a possible health risk to you and your neighbors.

What is a Backflow prevention device?

A backflow prevention device is a mechanical unit installed in the water line to prevent water from flowing in the reverse direction at cross connections. By ensuring the one-way flow of water, it protects the public water supply.



What can I Do to Protect the Public Water Supply?

You can install a backflow prevention device on your water line coming into your home and/or adhere to some of the following best practices around your home:

- Be aware and eliminate cross connections in your home
- Keep the end of hoses off the ground and out of buckets, tubs, or pools.
- Install hose bib vacuum breakers on your home hose bibs
- Make sure toilets have anti-siphon ballcock assemblies
- Contact the City if you see any suspicious or unauthorized use of a fire hydrant
- Have your plumbing system surveyed by a plumber or the City for potential cross connections