

Cross-Connection Control & Backflow Prevention

What Is a Cross-Connection?

A cross-connection is any actual or potential connection between the District's potable water system and a source of contamination or pollution. Without proper protection, changes in water pressure can cause water to flow backward into the public water system, a condition known as backflow.

Why Backflow Prevention Is Important

Backflow prevention devices protect the public water supply from contamination that can occur from irrigation systems, fire sprinkler systems, commercial equipment, water heaters, or other auxiliary water sources. These devices are required by State law and District policy to ensure safe and reliable drinking water for the community.

Customer Responsibilities

Property owners are responsible for:

- Installing required backflow prevention devices
- Ensuring devices are tested annually by a State-certified backflow tester as necessary
- Submitting test results to the District as required
- Maintaining devices in proper working order

Failure to comply may result in service interruption until compliance is achieved.

Annual Testing

Some backflow prevention devices must be tested **at least annually** and after installation, repair, or relocation. Testing must be performed by a certified tester approved by the District.

A list of known certified testers may be available upon request; however, customers may use any properly certified tester.

When Is a Backflow Device Required?

The District assumes potential cross-connection hazards may exist downstream of the meter and requires appropriate backflow protection based on degree of hazard.

District Authority

The District's Cross-Connection Control Program is administered in accordance with:

- State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water
- The State Cross-Connection Control Policy (effective March 2025)

Questions or Submittals

For questions, testing submittals, or compliance assistance, please contact:

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