

THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

IS AN ON GOING EFFORT TO ENSURE SAFE DRINKING WATER TO THE PUBLIC
EXAMPLES OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES USED IN THE FIELD

Reduced Pressure Zone Valve (RP)



Double Check Valve Assembly (DCVA)



Residential Dual Check Valve



Pressure Vacuum Breaker Irrigation



Hose Vacuum Breaker Sill Cocks, Slop Sinks



SS Dual Check W/ Vent Post Mix Carbonators



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE PWSB CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PROGRAM VISIT

WWW.PWSB.ORG

Click on customer service and stroll down to Rules & Regs or Backflow Information

For additional information please call or write to C/O Meter Department
P.W.S.B. Cross-Connection Control
85 Branch Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02860
401-729-5013—729-5019

Also additional information on Cross-Connection Control you can also visit

WWW.WRB.STATE.RI.US

WWW.ABPA.ORG

WWW.EPA.GOV

John R. Davies
P.W.S.B Cross-Connection Control Technician
85 Branch Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02860



P.W.S.B.
Cross-Connection Control
Backflow Program

***SAFEGUARDING
OUR DRINKING
WATER IS
EVERYONE'S
RESPONSIBILITY***



John R. Davies
P.W.S.B Cross-Connection Control Technician
85 Branch Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02860

Q. What is a Cross-Connection Control Program?

A. A C.C.C.P. is the Surveying of all buildings on the P.W.S.B distribution system which includes Pawtucket, Central Falls and the Valley Falls section of Cumberland beginning at the meter. Surveys are needed to identify and eliminate pollutants or the potential of pollutants as well as making sure that Approved Backflow Assemblies are installed, tested, and maintained. The C.C.C.P. is also responsible for all record keeping, Surveys and Test Due Notification and as to Type of Assembly to be installed.

Q. Who's Responsible for the C.C.C.P.

A. One of the requirements Federal / State Regulations impose on water utility companies, is that they have a program for identifying and eliminating Cross-Connections to the potable water supply. Under the Public Health Code of Rhode Island, the "Public Drinking Water Protection Act", chapter 46-15.3 of the R.I. general laws as amended, the water utility company has the primary responsibility of preventing water from unapproved sources, from entering the public water system through backflow. Also see section 10.2 & 10.3 of the PWSB Rules & Regulations (Responsibilities).

Q. Who Needs to be Surveyed and Why?

A. All commercial, industrial, medical, institutional and Residential premises served by the P.W.S.B. to determine if cross-connections exist or the potential of cross-connection. **All Surveys are done by Certified P.W.S.B. Employees Only.**

Q. What is a Cross-Connection?

A. A Cross-Connection is any arrangements of pipes, fixtures, or fittings that directly or indirectly connects a non-potable source (hazardous pollutants) to drinking water.

Q. How does a Backflow Contamination Occur?

A. Two Methods:

- (1) **Backpressure** can occur in the event the pressure in side the building exceeds the pressure entering the building I.e. Booster Pumps, Pressure vessels, Boiler Systems.
- (2) **Back-siphonage** can occur in the event the pressure in the supply piping entering the building drops off and a vacuum like suction begins. I.e. Water Main Breaks, Fire, Flushing of Hydrants

Q. Should I be Concerned with Cross-Connections?

A. Definitely! Cross-Connections are installed each day in the United States because people are unaware of the problems they can create. If not eliminated or properly protected by Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies, the water supply can become contaminated by any customer through Backflow or Back-Siphonage and may cause serious health problems or even spread diseases.

Q. Must I have my Backflow Prevention Assembly Tested and Maintained on an Annual Basis?

A) Yes. On all testable BFPA'S the owner is responsible for testing and maintaining their Backflow Prevention Assemblies. This will insure that the BFPA is working properly. A annual test notice is sent 30 day/'s in advance.

ONLY CERTIFIED TESTERS WHO ARE REGISTERED WITH PWSB CAN PERFORM THESE TEST.

Q. What happens if I do not have my Backflow Preventer Assembly Tested and Maintained as Required?

A. Bottom line, the owner could be held responsible if his or her water contaminates their water and or the public water system.

Q. What is a Testable Backflow Prevention Assembly

A. Essentially, they are two independent single check valves within one body, furnished with test cocks and two tightly closing ball valves.

Q. What are Backflow Prevention Assemblies used for?

A. Backflow prevention assemblies are devices that are installed at your service entrance (meter) and / or installed within your plumbing system i.e.: sill cocks, post mix carbonators, boilers, lawn irrigation just to name a few, to stop the reverse flow of the customers water into the public drinking water or entering the internal plumbing of your business or home which may contain pollutants or contaminants.

The most common Cross-Connections are due to improper Lawn Irrigation, Unprotected Hose Connections. Two good examples are Chemical Garden Hose Sprayers or Sill Cocks used to flush out sewer lines or auto radiators.



Never use a hose to spray toxic chemicals without proper backflow protection.



Never submerge a hose in standing water or sewer line without proper backflow protection.

DOMESTIC WATER—BFPA'S MAY RESULT IN A CLOSE LOOP SYSTEM. EXPANSION TANKS MAY BE REQUIRED. STRAINERS MAY AID IN THE PROTECTION OF THE BFPA. TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF BFPA IS THE OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY. ALL TEST DUE NOTICES ARE SENT 30 DAY'S IN ADVANCED ALONG WITH A PWSB CERTIFIED TESTERS LIST BEFORE NEXT TEST DUE DATE.