

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 Valve



Dual Check

Pressure Vacuum



Breaker Irrigation

Hose Vacuum Slop Sinks



Breaker Sill Cocks,

SS Dual Check Carbonators



W/ Vent Post Mix

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/lawsregs.htm

health.ri.gov/

newwa.org

epa.gov

pwsb.org

abpa.org

John R. Davies
P.W.S.B Cross-Connection Control Technician
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P.W.S.B.
Cross-Connection Control
Backflow Program

SAFEGUARDING

OUR DRINKING

WATER IS

EVERYONE'S

RESPONSIBILITY



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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 State Regulations impose on water utility companies, is that they have a program for identifying and eliminating Cross-Connections to the potable water supply. This program is mandated by **State Law RIGL 46-13-22** and the **Department of Health** regulations. The Pawtucket Water Supply is responsible for water that is delivered to your home or business. As a customer, you are responsible for the water on your property. A copy of the P.W.S.B. Rules and Regulations can also be found at www.pwsb.org

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.

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. One example could be a garden hose connected to your fertilize sprayer.

Q. How does a Backflow Contamination Occur?

A. Two Methods:

- (1) **Backpressure** which can occur in the event the pressure inside the building exceeds the pressure entering the building I.e. Booster Pumps, Pressure vessels, Boiler Systems.
- (2) **Back-siphonage** which 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.

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, Fire Sprinklers. Unprotected Hose Connections. Some good examples are your Sill cocks that can be used for Chemical Garden Hose Sprayers, also, connections that can be used to flush out sewer lines or your cars radiator. Any unprotected fixture is a cross connection or a potential cross connection.



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



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

PLEASE NOTE

BFPA'S MAY RESULT IN A CLOSE LOOP SYSTEM. EXPANSION TANKS ARE REQUIRED (Check with your local plumbing code).

DOMESTIC WATER ONLY - STRAINERS MAY AID IN THE PROTECTION OF THE BFPA. INSTALLING, TESTING, AND MAINTENANCE OF BFPA IS THE OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY.

ALL TEST DUE NOTICES ARE SENT 30 DAY'S IN ADVANCED ALONG WITH A LIST OF CERTIFIED BFPA TESTERS .