

There are two parts to the Cross Connection Control Program

- **TESTING** Backflow assembly testing performed by an ASSE certified tester contracted by the property owner
- **INSPECTIONS** Cross connection inspections performed by a Washington Township Cross Connection Inspector contracted by Washington Township

All facilities connected to the public water supply are required by law to be inspected for cross connections and backflow testing.

More Information online:

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

www.michigan.gov/deq

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

www.epa.gov

Cross Connection Control

www.WashingtonTownship.org

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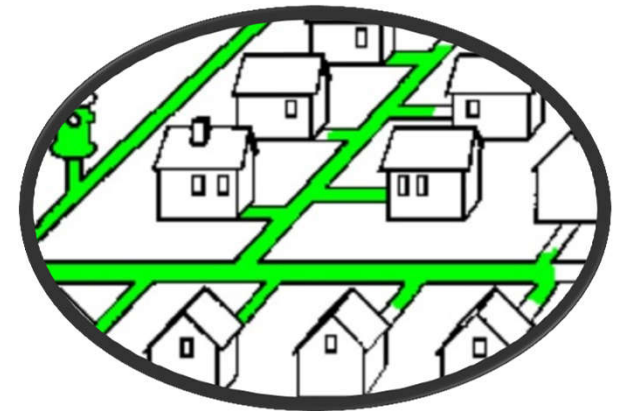
Washington Township
Public Water Customer

Charter Township of Washington
Department of Public Works

57900 Van Dyke Road
Washington, MI 48094
(586) 786-0010

Residential Cross Connections

Maintaining the integrity of our public drinking water system.





What is a Cross Connection?

A cross-connection is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. State plumbing codes require approved backflow prevention methods to be installed at every point of potable water connection and use. Cross-Connections must be properly protected or eliminated.

Why should I be concerned?

An unprotected or inadequately protected cross connection on your premises could contaminate the drinking water, not only to your home or business, but in the line that supplies neighboring homes and businesses.

Cross connections with potable piping systems have resulted in numerous cases of illness and even death.

Historically, cross connections have been one of the most serious public health threats to a drinking water supply system and many times are present in a residential water system.

Program information

In compliance with requirements by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Washington Township Cross Connection Control Program has the following residential requirements:

• Testing

Just like any other mechanical device, backflow prevention assemblies are prone to wear and tear, and do break down from time to time. Regular testing is required in order to ensure that your device remains in proper working order.

Assemblies must be tested

- initially upon installation,
- immediately after repair or relocation,
- and, at regular intervals thereafter.

Property owners are responsible for hiring only an ASSE certified tester to test any backflow preventer.

• Inspection

Inspections are conducted in order to ensure compliance with federal, state regulations and/or local ordinances to maintain the safety of your drinking water. During the inspection a Washington Township Cross Connection Control Inspector ensures that the proper backflow prevention devices are in place to protect the public water supply.

• Repairs and corrections

Property owners are responsible for hiring only a licensed plumber to make any repairs of backflow preventers.

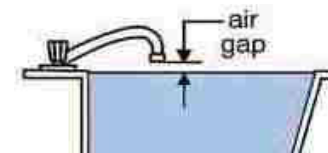
• Keep a Record

Property owners are responsible for maintaining a record which includes:

- backflow model, serial # and install date
- copies of every backflow test
- record of all repairs

Do.....

- Ensure that lawn irrigation systems have proper backflow protection.
- Keep the ends of hoses clear of all possible contaminants.
- Make sure dishwashers are installed with a proper “air gap” device.
- Verify and install a simple hose bibb vacuum breaker on all threaded faucets around your home.
- Make sure water treatment devices such as water softeners have the proper “air gap”, which is a minimum of one inch above any drain.



Don't.....

- Submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks or ponds.
- Use spray attachments on hoses without a backflow prevention device.
- Connect waste pipes from water softeners or other treatment systems directly to the sewer or submerged drain pipe. Always be sure there is a one inch “air gap” separation.

Contact Us

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