



Any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping is a cross-connection.

Be aware of and eliminate cross-connections.

We all share a legal responsibility for protecting plumbing from backflow that may contaminate the water system or our drinking water.

For more information, please visit cctexas.com/backflow



An approved backflow preventer must be installed where the public water system connects to the customer's plumbing system or service connection.

Any water system on or available to a property owner other than the public water system such as well water, cisterns, and open reservoirs equipped with pumps or other sources of pressure, including gravity must be completely separated from water supply plumbing.

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Protecting Our Public Water System

Through Backflow Prevention and
Cross-Connection Control

What is Backflow?

Backflow is the flow through a cross-connection from a possible source of contamination backwards into the drinking water system. It occurs when a cross-connection is joined to the water supply piping without a backflow preventer resulting in pressure reversal, either as backsiphonage or backpressure.



Required Protection

ALL cross-connections pose a potential health risk.

Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or neighbors if contaminated water enters the water supply plumbing system and is used for drinking, cooking or bathing.

Chemical burns, fires, explosions, poisonings, illness and death have all been caused by backflow through cross-connections.

Eliminating Hazards

- Maintain air gaps. Do not submerge hoses or place them where they could become submerged.
- Use hose bib vacuum breakers on fixtures (hose connections in the basement, laundry room and outside).

- Install approved, testable backflow preventers on lawn irrigation systems.
- Do not create a connection between an auxiliary water system (well, cistern, body of water) and the water supply plumbing.

Use caution when:

- Connecting hoses to chemical solution aspirators to feed lawn and shrub herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers.
- Using chemically treated heating or boiler systems.
- Filling swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas with a hose.
- Private and/or non-potable water supplies are located on the property.
- Using water-operated sump drain devices.

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