



RESIDENTIAL CROSS-CONNECTION AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM

This annual notice is mandated by the Ohio EPA.

WHAT IS CROSS-CONNECTION AND BACKFLOW?

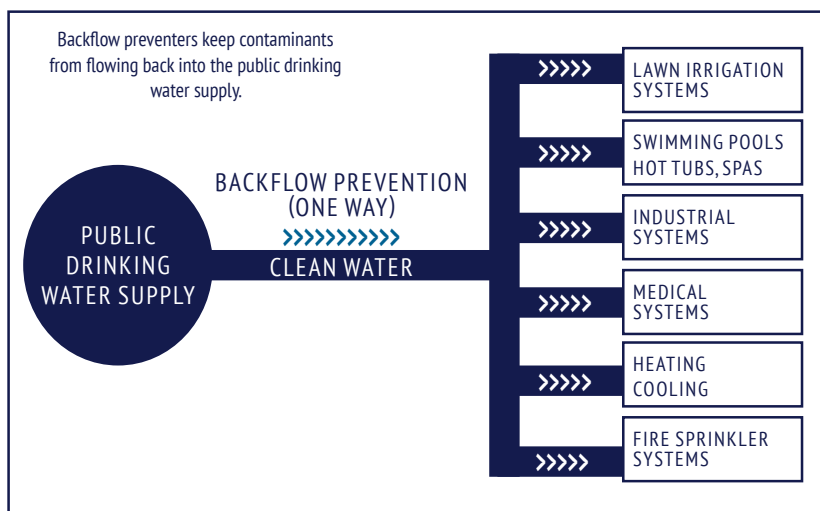
Water systems depend on water pressure to keep water flowing in the proper direction through the pipes. A **cross-connection** is any physical connection between a possible source of contamination and the public water system. Additionally, a drop in water pressure can create a reverse flow from a homeowner's plumbing system back into the public water system. This is called **backflow**.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95 requires public water suppliers to protect their water systems from cross-connections and prevent backflow situations. City of Perrysburg Codified Ordinance 1060.06 Rule 59 establishes the authority for the Commissioner of Public Utilities to determine the appropriate backflow installation. If a residential water customer is found to have a potential or actual cross-connection contamination hazard, the customer will be required to eliminate the hazard and/or install an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection and/or at the hazard.

WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF CROSS-CONNECTIONS AND BACKFLOW SCENARIOS?

- Soapy water or other cleaning compounds backsiphoned into your (the consumer's) water supply plumbing through a faucet or hose submerged in a bucket or laundry basin.
- A hose submerged in a swimming pool creates a pathway for pool water to enter your water supply plumbing.
- Fertilizers/pesticides backsiphoned into your water supply plumbing through a garden hose attached to a fertilizer/pesticide sprayer.
- Chemicals/pesticides and animal or bird droppings drawn into your water supply plumbing from a lawn irrigation system with submerged nozzles.
- Water-powered back up sump pumps, if not isolated by a properly installed backflow prevention device, create a cross-connection between the drinking water supply and the contaminated water in the sump pit.
- A connection made between an auxiliary water supply (i.e. well or cistern) and the water being supplied by a public water system through the consumer's water supply plumbing.

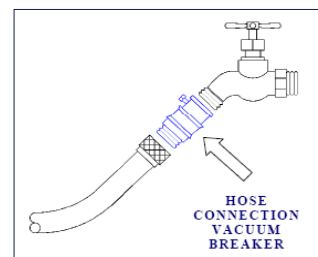


WHAT ARE COMMON BACKFLOW HAZARDS THAT THREATEN PUBLIC SAFETY?

- Hose connections to chemical solution aspirators to feed lawn and shrub herbicides, pesticides, or fertilizers.
- Lawn irrigation systems.
- Chemically treated heating systems.
- Hose connections to a water outlet or laundry tub.
- Swimming pools, hot tubs, spas.
- Water-operated sump pump devices.
- Feed lots/livestock holding areas or barnyards fed through pipes or hoses from your water supply plumbing.
- Private and/or potable water supplies located on the property.

RESIDENTIAL WATER CONSUMER CAN PREVENT BACKFLOW BY:

- Be aware of and eliminate cross-connections.
- 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).
- Make sure toilets have anti-siphon ballcock assemblies.
- Install approved, testable backflow prevention devices on lawn irrigation systems or water service lines to pools or hot tubs.
- Install an approved, testable backflow prevention device if a water-powered back up sump pump is present.
- Do not create a connection between an auxiliary water system (well, cistern, body of water) and the water supply plumbing.



Anyone with an in-ground sprinkler or irrigation system should have a backflow prevention device on lawn irrigation systems. Most lawn irrigation installers and local plumbers can provide this service.

If you have a swimming pool, hot tub, spa, irrigation system, or water-powered backup sump pump at your residence, **please first contact your plumber or system installer to find out if you already have a backflow prevention device in place.**

STEPS TO TAKE:

1. Resident determines they have a swimming pool, hot tub, spa, irrigation system, and/or water-powered back up sump pump.
2. Resident contacts their plumber or system installer to determine if they have a backflow prevention device installed. Plumber or system installer reports to resident as to: a) Type of device, b) location, and c) whether it is a testable device.
3. Resident may contact the Department of Public Utilities:
 - a. Send an email to utilities@ci.perrysburg.oh.us.
 - b. Visit the City website at <https://www.ci.perrysburg.oh.us/> for more information.
 - c. Call 419 872 8050.

When contacting the City, please briefly list which of the installations you have (pool, irrigation, etc.) and the information in item #2 above, along with your name, address, and phone number.

The City of Perrysburg Public Utilities Department asks all residential customers to implement the recommendations outlined in this brochure. **Additional information is available on the City's website.**