

BEAVER DAM EAST DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL POLICY

ADAPTED FROM THE DISTRICT GENERAL POLICY MANUAL
January 2012 VERSION

The District recognizes its responsibility for preventing water from un-approved sources, or any other substances from entering the public potable water system, and shall provide a continuing program of cross-connection control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of its water system and be consistent with public health requirements. Authority for this policy can be derived from A.A.C. R18-4-215.

"Backflow Prevention Device" shall mean an effective device approved by the District used to prevent water or other liquid material flowing from the customer's property, from entering the potable water system.

Air Gap (AG): The unobstructed vertical distance through free atmosphere between the lowest point of a water supply outlet, pipe or faucet supplying potable water to a tank, plumbing fixture or other device and the flood level rim of the tank, plumbing fixture or other device. An approved air gap shall be at least twice the diameter of the supply pipe or faucet and in no case less than one (1) inch.

Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (RPA) or Reduced Pressure Zone Assembly (RPZ): A backflow prevention assembly containing two independently action approved check valves together with a hydraulically operating, mechanically independent pressure differential relief valve located between the check valves, and at the same time below the first check valve. The assembly shall include properly located test cocks and tightly closing shut-off valves at each end of the assembly.

Double Check Valve Assembly (DCA): A backflow prevention assembly composed of two independently acting, approved check valves, including tightly closing shut-off valves located at each end of the assembly and fitted with properly located test cocks.

Dual Check Valve Assembly (DC): A backflow prevention assembly composed of two independently acting, approved check valves in a common housing without shut-off valves or test cocks.

All current and new residential, commercial or industrial connections shall install an approved backflow prevention device. At minimum, a dual check assembly with shut-off valves at each end and a means to remove the device for inspection, repair or replacement shall be installed.

All Fire Service Laterals shall have an approved backflow prevention device installed provided doing so does not violate the requirements of the state fire marshal or local fire authority. This type of backflow prevention device shall be approved prior to construction by the District. The owner shall also get approval for the device and system from the fire authority.

The degree of protection from an actual or potential cross-connection and the type of backflow prevention device required to be installed shall be determined by the District. The actual or potential hazard shall be either classified as either high or low risk hazard. A high risk hazard is defined as any actual or potential condition, device or practice which, in the judgment of the district, may create a threat of contamination to a potable water supply or may create a danger to the health and well-being of the potable water consumers. The use of water from an alternative supply source in any form of plumbed or pressurized system shall constitute a high risk hazard. Alternative sources include, but are not limited to, pressurized irrigation systems, wells, ponds or streams, gray-water reuse, rainwater collection and potable water from another system not under the control of the district. For purposes of this section, pressurization may come from mechanical means or gravity.

A low risk hazard is defined as any actual or potential condition, device or practice which, in the judgment of the district, may create a threat of pollution to a potable water supply system but does not pose a health hazard to other potable water consumers.

The use of a dual check assembly is appropriate only in situations where a potential low hazard risk may exist. If a low hazard condition actually exists, a testable double check assembly should be used.

If an actual or potential high hazard condition exists, a reduced pressure assembly shall be installed at the service connection. Additionally, if feasible, the district may require the customer to modify plumbing or practices to maintain an air gap between the potable water supply and each source of contamination.

For those service connections where a testable backflow prevention device has been installed, the device shall be tested annually at the customer's expense and a copy of the test result forwarded to the district. Device testing should occur on the anniversary of device installation. If service is shut off at the time testing is required, testing can be delayed until service is to be turned back on. The device shall be tested before service is turned on and the anniversary of that test shall be the new test date. A customer may request a waiver of the testing requirement in those situations where a testable prevention assembly was installed but the condition requiring it no longer exists. At least thirty (30) days prior to the required test date, the district is to send the customer a reminder of the test due. If a passing test result is not received by the required date, a two week extension may be granted. Extending the test due date in this manner shall not act to change to due date of the next annual test. If a passing test result is not received by the due date or an extension thereof, water service shall immediately be shut-off until such time as the device is tested and certified.

The emphasis of the district's cross-connection policy is to prevent contamination occurring at a customer's location from entering the district's distribution system. This does nothing to prevent on site contamination of the customer's plumbing system. To that end, the use of pressure vacuum breakers on all hose bibs, including temporary installations, is strongly recommended as is the use of an atmospheric vacuum breaker on irrigation systems. Local plumbing codes may require these and other measures.

The owners of property serviced by the District shall permit detailed inspection of their premises by personnel of the District or other county, state or federal agencies having jurisdiction to determine if potential or actual hazards to the public water supply are present.

A written report of the inspection shall be made by the District or other agency and a copy will be given to the customer. The report shall evaluate existing or potential hazards to the public water supply. Requirements may include meter protection. The customer will have 24 hours to 30 days (depending on the degree of hazard), as determined by the District to comply with the requirements specified in the report.

At the end of the period allowed for compliance, the District shall re-inspect the customer's premises to verify compliance. If a customer has been found in noncompliance with the requirements specified, delivery of water to the customer shall be discontinued.

Delivery of water shall be discontinued if District or other agency personnel determine that:

- a. The District's water system is being polluted or is in immediate danger of contamination from a cross-connection. In which case, service may be discontinued immediately, or
- b. A defect found in the backflow prevention device has not been corrected or a device has not been installed, after due notice has been given to make repairs or install. For those connections which pose a significant risk of contamination, the correction period before disconnect shall be 24 hours. For all other connections, the correction period before disconnect shall be 30 days, or
- c. The owner of the property has failed, within 30 days, to submit in writing, test results after receipt of the District's letter requesting annual certification of backflow prevention device.

Service will not be restored until the backflow prevention device has been installed or repaired at the customer's expense and is in good working order, or the cross-connection is abated to the satisfaction of the District. Any such turnoff shall require the District standard fee to reinstate service.