

CITY OF PATASKALA
UTILITY DEPARTMENT
BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM

What is a residential “cross connection”?

Every time you turn on a faucet in your home you expect a flow of high quality, clean drinking water. Safe, clean drinking water is not something we should take for granted. Every utility customer can play a role in protecting our water and ensure we have clean water every time we turn on the faucet.



Do you know that common hazards in and around your house can contaminate your drinking water as well as your neighbors?

These hazards are known as “cross connections”, and can result in contaminated water back-flowing into your home’s drinking water supply without you even knowing.

What is a Cross Connection?

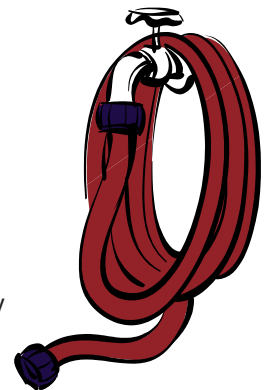
Any physical connection created between an possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping.

Why be concerned?

ALL cross-connections pose a potential health risk. Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your 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.

What are some common residential cross connection hazards.

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



What can I do?

- * 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).
- * Install approved, testable backflow prevention devices on lawn irrigation systems.
- * Do not create a connection between an auxiliary water system (well, cistern, body of water) and the water supply plumbing.
- * [Complete the online Residential Cross Connection Survey](#)



What must be done to protect the public water system?

The City of Pataskala Utility Department must determine potential and actual hazards. If a hazard exists at a customer’s water supply service connection, the customer will be required to install and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the meter and/or at the source of the hazard. You can help protect our water supply by completing our on line survey to determine if any cross connections exist.

Pataskala’s Backflow Prevention Program:

For more information on Pataskala’s Backflow Prevention Program and to complete the [Residential Cross Connection Survey](#) type the following link into your internet web browser <http://www.ci.pataskala.oh.us/BackflowPrevention.aspx> or contact the Utility Director, Nathan Coey at [740-927-4134](tel:740-927-4134) or ncoey@ci.pataskala.oh.us



**Document Source and Credit to Ohio EPA’s flyer
“Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control” March 2010*