What type of Backflow Prevention Assembly is Necessary

The type of backflow prevention assembly required is determined by the degree of hazard. In other words, the severity of the actual or potential hazard will dictate what level of protection is necessary to adequately protect the drinking water.

For temporary cross-connections, such as a garden hose, an inexpensive hose bib vacuum breaker is acceptable.

Other types of backflow prevention assemblies are available for permanent specialized applications, such as fire sprinkler systems, irrigation sprinkler systems, and piping connections within a commercial facility.

American Backflow Prevention Association
ABPA.org
877-227-2127

What can you do?

First, you should determine if there are potential cross-connections in your home or business. The local plumbing inspector or water provider can assist in this determination.

Next, you should investigate alternatives for eliminating or protecting against all actual or potential cross-connections.

After determining the method of cross-connection control, the necessary plumbing changes or the addition of a mechanical backflow prevention assemblies should be made.

Local codes or government regulations are used to determine what specific backflow prevention assemblies are required for each application. The local water provider should always be consulted prior to purchasing and installing any backflow prevention assembly.

For more information go to www.ABPA.org or call 877.227.2127

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

ASK BUSTER BACKFLOW®

AMERICAN BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

Presented By:
The American Backflow Prevention Association
Headquarter Services

100 N. 20th Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Every time you fill a glass with water from the tap, prepare a meal, or take a bath, you take for granted that the water will always be clean, pure, and healthy.

Occasionally, situations occur outside of our control that can jeopardize the quality of your drinking water. A very common occurrence in a water distribution system is the temporary loss of pressure due to the breakage of a water supply pipe or water main.

When these situations occur, conditions are present that can allow the **BACKFLOW** of **pollutants** or **contaminants** into the water system and threaten the purity of our drinking water system.

What is BACKFLOW?

Backflow is the undesirable reversal of flow of fluids, chemicals, or any other foreign material into the public drinking water system. There are two forms of backflow - backsiphonage (usually caused by a loss of pressure in the drinking water system) and backpressure (caused by pumps, piping systems elevation, or thermal expansion from a heat source).

Backflow can cause our drinking water to become **polluted** or **contaminated**.

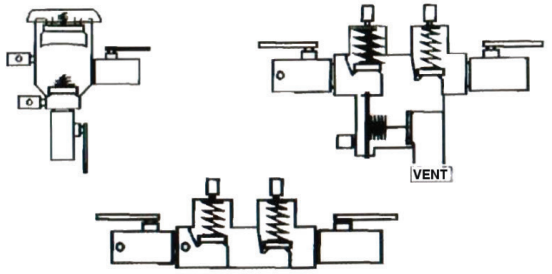
Pollution reduces the quality of drinking water. It does not create a public health hazard, but adversely affects the aesthetics of taste, odor, and appearance.

However, when the drinking water is **contaminated**, there is concern for public health if the water is consumed. This creates a threat of illness or, in extreme cases, human mortality.

Can BACKFLOW be prevented?

Yes, the **Backflow** of undesirable elements into the drinking water system can be prevented. A **cross-connection** is a physical connection between the water supply and any source of possible pollution or contamination. By eliminating or controlling all actual or potential cross-connections, the public drinking water system will be protected within the city water main system and within buildings.

Simple plumbing changes can easily eliminate many cross-connections. However, where this is not possible, **backflow prevention assemblies** are installed to protect the water supply.



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