

CROSS CONNECTIONS:

Regulations of the Oregon Health Division prohibit unprotected cross connections between a public water supply and any source of water that is contaminated or that has the potential for being contaminated.

DEFINITION:

"Cross connection" means any connection between the Colton Water District's water distribution system and any source of contaminated or potentially contaminated fluid; i.e. a not-for-drinking water system (stock water); a used water system; an auxiliary water supply; an irrigation or sprinkler system; a drain conduit; a swimming pool; a storage reservoir; a plumbing fixture; a swamp cooler; an air conditioner unit; a fire protection system; or other assemblies which contain or may contain contaminated water, sewage, or other liquid of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the District's water supply system as a result of backflow.

Also considered to be cross connections are: bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or change-over assemblies or other temporary or permanent assemblies through which or because of which backflow may occur.

PURPOSE:

No cross connections shall exist within the District's water distribution system except in accordance with this policy.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE (ASSEMBLY) REQUIREMENT:

Where the Colton Water District has reasonable cause to believe an existing or potential cross connection is located on the water user's premises, the District will require the installation of an approved backflow protection device by and at the expense of the property owner or water customer before service will be granted or continued.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES SHALL BE INSTALLED ON PREMISES:

1. Having any cross connections as that term is defined under DEFINITION above;
2. Where there is piping for conveying liquids for other than potable water, and where that piping is under pressure and installed in proximity to the potable water piping;
3. Where there is intricate plumbing which makes it impractical to ascertain whether or not a cross connection exists;
4. Where there is a backsiphonage potential;

5. Where any type of chemical discharging apparatus, such as garden hose applicators for fertilizers, insecticides or pesticides and/or radiator flush kits, and/or in-home or mobile carpet cleaners, is used;

6. Where cross connections or potential cross-connections not described in this policy exist.

7. An atmosphere vacuum breaker backflow prevention assembly is required on all outside faucets.

#### INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS:

The installation of backflow prevention assembly shall meet the following District requirements:

1. Before a backflow assembly is installed, the installation plans shall be approved by the Colton Water District.
2. The backflow assembly shall not be subjected to flooding. If it is installed in a vault or basement, adequate drainage shall be provided.
3. The backflow assembly shall be protected from freezing.
4. The backflow assembly shall be installed between the water service and the first branch in the customer's water line.
5. When there are multiple connections on a water service, each connection will be required to have an assembly if any assembly is required.

#### MAINTENANCE OF BACKFLOW ASSEMBLIES:

Backflow assemblies shall be maintained by the property owner or water customer.

#### TYPE OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIRED:

The type of backflow prevention devices required by the District shall conform to the standards established in ORS 333-61-071, sections (6),(7),(8),(9), and (12); and to any applicable Oregon Administrative Rules.

#### INSPECTION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES:

The District will require the inspection of all backflow prevention devices installed in the District.

1. The water user or owner of the premises where required backflow prevention devices have been installed shall have the device tested by a certified tester at least once a year.

2. Devices installed where there is an extreme health risk or devices that repeatedly fail shall be tested on a more frequent schedule determined by the District.
3. Backflow prevention devices found not to be functioning properly shall be promptly repaired by the water user or owner of the premises or the District may discontinue water service.
4. After a backflow device is installed or moved the device shall be tested before use.
5. Reports of the test shall be prepared by the certified tester and copies provided to the water user or owner of the premises and to the District. Reports shall be delivered within three weeks of the testing.
6. The tests performed by the tester shall meet the requirements of ORS 333-51-070 section (10).
7. The District will require all testers to maintain liability insurance and to have had confined space training.
8. The District will notify water users or property owners of this requirement at least bi-annually.

DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER SERVICE:

The service of water to any premises will be immediately discontinued by the District if:

1. It is found that unprotected cross connections exist.
2. The customer fails to install an approved backflow device.
3. Defects are found in backflow devices.
4. The annual inspection of the backflow device is not conducted.
5. Access for inspection of premises is denied.

Service will not be restored until an inspected and approved backflow device is in place.

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM PLAN:

The District will have a written Cross Connection Control Program Plan that includes the following:

1. A master list of facilities and premises which are subject to inspection, and the hazard level for each.

2. A current list of certified inspectors to be used in the District and their work responsibilities.
3. Provision and schedule for an initial inspection, the installation, and the annual testing of each required backflow device in the District, and a periodic reinspection of each required backflow device.

The District will maintain current records of backflow devices installed, inspections completed, and backflow device test results.

The District will prepare and submit an annual written report to the Oregon Health Division using the Division's report format.

One person certified in cross connection inspection will be appointed by the District to be responsible for carrying out this plan.

#### WATER TREATMENT BY WATER USERS:

Whenever a water user or the owner of the premises obtaining water from the District treats the water in any way or adds any chemical or substance to the water they shall notify the District.

The District will keep a record of customers reporting these additions to the water and will take necessary, appropriate action.

The District will notify their water users of this requirement at least bi-annually.

#### PLUMBING CHANGE REQUIRED:

In special circumstances, when the customer is engaged in the handling of especially dangerous or corrosive liquids or industrial or process waters, the district may require the customer to eliminate certain plumbing or piping connections as an additional precaution and as a protection to the backflow prevention devices.

In making plumbing connections the customer shall be guided entirely by county and state plumbing codes and not by the water District.

#### THERMAL PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE REQUIRED:

A thermal relief valve will be installed by property owners or water customers to protect their plumbing systems from thermal expansion when backflow prevention devices (assemblies) are used.

The installation and maintenance of the thermal relief valve will be at the property owner's or water customer's expense.

#### FINDING UNPROTECTED CROSS CONNECTIONS:

The District will use several methods to find property owners or water customers that may have unprotected cross connections.

The District will:

1. Ask applicants for water use to read and sign the District's policy on cross connections
2. Require employees to be alert to report, and investigate premises suspected of having an unprotected cross connection.
3. Inform District customers of the dangers of cross connections and ask them to inform the District of unprotected cross connections they suspect in their own plumbing system.

#### GENERAL PROTECTION AGAINST BACKFLOW INTO MAINS:

The District will install a check valve at each new service. The District will also supply the valve. (A service with an unprotected cross connection will need an additional backflow device that is approved by county and state plumbing codes).

#### ACCESS TO PREMISES:

The District or its duly authorized agents shall at reasonable times have the right to enter or leave the customer's premises for any purpose properly connected with the service of water to the customer.

#### CONSTITUTIONALITY AND SAVING CLAUSE:

That if any provision, section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances are for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid or for any reason unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby, it being the intent of the Board of Commissioners of the Colton Water District in approving this Ordinance that no portion hereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality or invalidity of any other portion, provision, or regulation.

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