

41-90170

Mt. Angel Abbey
1 Abbey Drive
St. Benedict, Oregon 97373

Mount Angel Abbey Water System
Cross-Connection Policy and Enabling Authority

According to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 and the Statutes of the State of Oregon, Administration Rules Chapters #333-61-070, #333-61-071, and #333-61-072, the water supplier in any public water system has the primary responsibility for the preventing of water from unapproved sources, or any other substances from entering the public potable water system.

For this reason, the Mt. Angel Abbey Water System has prepared a Cross-Connection Control Program which has been filed (1 November 95) with the State of Oregon Health Division, Drinking Water Program.

To implement and enforce this Cross-Connection Control Program, (copies of which are available from the Water Operator or from the Business Office, Mt. Angel Abbey, 503-845-3030) the Abbey of Mt. Angel hereby declares the following policy to be in effect:

In accordance with the above Federal Act and State Statutes, the Abbey of Mt. Angel reserves the right, after proper written notification (five (5) days notice), to enter and inspect the grounds and buildings of any of its tenants for the purpose of determining whether a cross-connection hazard exists, the degree of that hazard, and to determine what must be done to correct that hazard in a timely fashion and in accordance with all current State codes and regulations.

In accordance with the State of Oregon, Administrative Rules, #333-61-070 (1) (a) (A), the Abbey is authorized to discontinue water service to any premises who fail to install or to allow the installation of an approved backflow prevention device. Furthermore, in consonance with the above stated Administrative Rule, and in accordance with the Abbey's Cross-Connection Control Program, Section VI(5), if the Abbey determines at any time that a serious threat to the public health exists, the water service will be terminated immediately.

Also, since the State of Oregon Health Division mandates annual testing of all installed backflow prevention devices, the Abbey also reserves the right, after proper notification, to enter a tenant's premises at periodic intervals (at least once per year) to inspect and test any backflow prevention devices that have been installed and to re-inspect for possible further hazards.

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All the responsibilities, requirements and procedures for these entries and inspections are set forth in the Abbey's Cross-Connection Control Program, sections VI, VII, VIII, and IX.

Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Water Operator or to the Business Manager of Mt. Angel Abbey.

Br. John Muller, O.S.B.
Water Operator
1 November. 1995

Revised

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

MT. ANGEL ABBEY WATER SYSTEM
1 ABBEY DRIVE
ST. BENEDICT, OREGON 97373

NOVEMBER 1, 1995

Approved _____

Date _____

I Purpose

A. To protect the public potable water supply served by the Mt. Angel Abbey Water System from the possibility of contamination or pollution by isolating, within its customers internal distribution system, such contaminants or pollutants which could backflow or backsiphon into the public water system.

B. To promote the elimination of, or control of, existing cross connections, actual or potential, between the potable water system and sources of non-potable water or other hazardous substances.

C. To provide for the maintenance of a continuing program of cross connection control which will effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of all potable water systems by cross connection.

II Authority

A. The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, and the statutes of the State of Oregon, Administrative Rules Chapters #333-61-070, #333-61-071, and #333-61-072 state that the water supplier has the primary responsibility for the preventing of water from unapproved sources, or any other substances, from entering the public potable water system.

B. Mt. Angel Abbey Water System, Rules and Regulations, adopted.

III Responsibility

The Mt. Angel Abbey Water System shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to the backflow or backsiphonage of contaminants or pollutants through the water service connection. If, in the judgement of the Mt. Angel Abbey Water System, an approved backflow device is required at the Abbey's water connection to any Tenant's premise, the Mt. Angel Abbey Water operator, or his agent, shall give notice in writing to said Tenant to install an approved backflow prevention device at each service connection to his premises. The Tenant shall, within ninety (90) days, install such approved device, or devices, at his own expense, and failure or refusal, or inability on the part of the customer to install said device or devices within ninety (90) days, shall constitute a ground for discontinuing water service to the premises until such device or devices have been properly installed and inspected.

IV Definitions

A. Approved

Accepted by the Mt. Angel Abbey Water System as meeting an applicable specification stated or cited in this regulation, or as suitable for the proposed use.

B. Auxiliary Water Supply

Any water supply, on or available, to the premises other than the suppliers approved public potable water supply.

C. Backflow

The flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances, under positive or reduced pressure in the distribution pipes of a potable water supply from any source other than its intended source.

D. Backflow Preventer

A device or means designed to prevent backflow or backsiphonage. Most commonly categorized as air gap, reduced pressure principle device, double check valve assembly, pressure vacuum breaker, atmospheric vacuum breaker and hose bib vacuum breaker. Any device must be classified as an approved backflow device by the Oregon Health Division.

D.1 Air Gap

A physical separation sufficient to prevent backflow between the free-flowing discharge end of the potable water system and any other system. Physically defined as distance equal to twice the diameter of the supply side pipe diameter but never less than one (1) inch.

D.2 Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker

A device which prevents backsiphonage by creating an atmospheric vent when there is either a negative pressure or sub-atmospheric pressure on a water system.

D.3 Double Check Valve Assembly

An assembly of two(2) independently operating spring loaded check valves with tightly closing shut off valves on each side of the check valves, plus properly located test cocks for the testing of each check valve.

D.4 Hose Bib Vacuum Breaker

A device which is permanently attached to a hose bib and which acts as an atmospheric vacuum breaker.

D.5 Pressure Vacuum Breaker

A device containing one (1) or two (2) independently operating approved check valves and an independently operated spring loaded air inlet valve located on the discharge side of the check or checks. Device includes tightly closing shut-off valves on each side of the check valves and properly located test cocks for the testing of the check valve(s).

D.6 Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer

An assembly consisting of two(2) independently operating approved check valves with an automatically operating differential relief valve located between the two (2) check valves, tightly closing shut-off valves on each side of the check valves plus properly located test cocks for the testing of the check valves and the relief valves.

E. Backpressure

A condition in which the owner's system pressure is greater than the supplier's system pressure.

F. Backsiphonage

The flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances into the distribution pipes of a potable water supply system from any source other than its intended source caused by the sudden reduction of the pressure in the potable water supply system.

G. Containment

A method of backflow prevention which requires a backflow preventer at the water service entrance.

H. Contaminant

Any substance that will impair the quality of the water to a degree that it creates a serious health hazard to the public leading to poisoning or the spread of disease.

I. Cross Connection

Any actual or potential connection between the public water supply and a source of contamination or pollution.

J. Division

The State of Oregon Public Health Division

K. Fixture Isolation

A method of backflow prevention in which a backflow preventer is located to correct a cross connection at an in-plant location rather than at a water service entrance.

L. Owner

Any person who has legal title to, or license to operate or habitat in, a property upon which a cross connection inspection is to be made or upon which a cross connection is present.

M. Person

Any individual, partnership, company, public, or private corporation, political subdivision or agency of the State Division, agency or instrumentality of the United States or any other legal entity.

N. Permit

A document issued by the Utility which allows the use of a backflow preventer.

O. Pollutant

A foreign substance that, if permitted to get into the public water system, will degrade its quality so as to constitute a moderate hazard, or impair the usefulness or quality of the water to a degree which does not create an actual hazard to the public health but which does adversely and unreasonably effect such water for domestic use.

P. Public Works Director

The director, or his delegated representative in charge of the Mt. Angel Water System, is invested with the authority and responsibility for the implementation of a cross connection control program and for the enforcement of the provisions of the Ordinance.

Q. Tenant

Any individual, partnership, company, or corporation that rents or leases property of Mt. Angel Abbey.

R. Utility

Mt. Angel Abbey Water System.

S. Water Service Entrance

That point in the owner's water system beyond the sanitary control of the District; generally considered to be the outlet end of the water meter and always before any unprotected branch.

V Administration

A. The Utility will operate a cross connection control program, to include the keeping of necessary records which fulfills the requirements of the Division's Cross Connection Regulations.

B. The Tenant shall allow his property to be inspected, after proper written notification, for possible cross connections and shall follow the provisions of the Utility's program and the Division's regulations if a cross connection is identified.

C. If the Utility requires that the public supply be protected by (containment,) the Tenant shall be responsible for water quality beyond the outlet end of the containment device and should utilize a backflow device for that purpose. he may utilize public health officials, or personnel from the Utility, or their delegated representatives, to assist in the survey of the facilities and to assist in the selection of proper fixture outlet devices, and the proper installation of these devices.

VI Requirements

A. Utility

1. On new installations, the Utility will provide on-site evaluation and/or inspection of plans in order to determine the type of backflow preventer, if any, that will be required, will issue permit, and perform inspection and testing.

2. For premises existing prior to the start of this program, the Department will perform evaluations and inspections of plans and/or premises and inform the owner by letter of any corrective action deemed necessary, the method of achieving the correction, and the time allowed for the correction to be made. Ordinarily, ninety (90) days will be shortened depending upon the degree of hazard involved and the history of the device(s) in question.

3. The Utility will not allow any cross connection to remain unless it is protected by an approved backflow preventer for which a permit has been issued and which will be regularly tested to insure satisfactory operating.

4. The Utility shall inform the Tenant by letter of any failure to comply within ten (10) working days of the first inspection. The Utility will allow an additional fifteen (15) days for the correction. In the event the Tenant fails to comply with necessary correction by the time of the second re-inspection, the Utility will inform the Tenant by letter that the water service to the Tenant's premises will be terminated within a period not to exceed five (5) days. In the event that the Tenant informs the Utility of extenuating circumstances as to why the correction has not been made, a time extension may be granted by the Utility but in no case will exceed an additional thirty (30) days.

5. If the Utility determines at any time that a serious threat to the public health exists, the water service will be terminated immediately.

6. The Utility shall have on file a list of Private Contractors who are certified backflow device testers. All charges for these tests will be paid by the Tenant of the building or property.

7. The Utility will begin initial premise inspections to determine the nature of existing or potential hazards, during the calendar year 1995.

B. Tenant

1. The Tenant shall be responsible for the elimination or isolation of all cross connections on his premises.
2. The Tenant, after having been informed by a letter from the Utility, shall at his expense, install, maintain, and test, or have tested, any and all backflow preventers on his premises.

3. The Tenant shall correct any malfunctions of the backflow preventer which is revealed by periodic testing.
4. The Tenant shall inform the Utility of any proposed or modified cross connections and also any existing cross connections of which the Tenant is aware but has not been found by the Utility.
5. The Tenant shall not install a by-pass around any backflow preventer unless there is a backflow preventer of the same type on the by-pass. Tenant shall not tamper with backflow devices.
6. The Tenant shall install backflow preventers in a manner approved by the Utility.
7. The Tenant shall install only backflow preventers approved by the Division.
8. Any Tenant having a private well or other private water source, must have a permit if the well or source is cross connected to the Utility's system. OAR 333-61-070 (4)(b) requires that approved backflow prevention assemblies be installed in these situations. Permission to cross connect may be denied by the Utility. The Tenant may be required to install a backflow preventer at the service entrance if a private water source is maintained, even if it is not cross connected to the Utility's system.
9. In the event the Tenant installs plumbing to provide potable water for domestic purposes which is on the Utility's side of the backflow preventer, such plumbing must have its own backflow preventer installed.

VII Degree of Hazard

The Utility recognizes the threat to the public water system arising from cross connections. All threats will be classified by degree of hazard and will require the installation of approved backflow prevention devices.

VIII Existing In-Use Backflow Prevention Devices

Any existing backflow preventer shall be allowed by the Utility to continue in service unless the degree of hazard is such as to supersede the effectiveness of the preventer, or result in an unreasonable risk to the public health. Where the degree of hazard has increased, as in the case of a residential installation converting to a business establishment, any existing backflow device must be replaced with an approved device suitable for that degree of hazard.

Existing backflow preventers shall be allowed by the Utility to continue in service provided they were approved by the Health Division at the time of installation (OAR 333-61-070 (12)).

IX Periodic Testing

A. All testable backflow devices shall be tested and inspected at least annually.

B. Periodic testing shall be performed by the Utility's certified tester or from a list provided by the Utility. This testing will be done at the owner's expense.

C. Any backflow preventer which fails during a periodic test will be repaired or replaced. When repairs are necessary, upon completion of the repair the device will be retested at Tenants expense to insure correct operation. High hazard situations will not be allowed to continue if the backflow preventer fails the test and cannot be repaired immediately. In other situations, a compliance date of not more than thirty (30) days after the test date will be established. The Tenant is responsible for spare parts, or a replacement device. Parallel installation of two (2) devices is an effective means of the owner insuring uninterrupted water service during testing or repair of devices and is strongly recommended when the owner desires such continuity.

D. Backflow prevention devices will be tested more frequently than specified in A. above if the Utility feels that there is a history of test failures. Cost of additional testing will be borne by the Tenant.

X Records and Reports

A. Records

The Utility will initiate and maintain the following

1. Master files on customer's cross connection tests and/or inspections.
2. Copies of lists and summaries supplied to the Division.
3. Initial listing of low hazard cross connections.
4. Initial listing of high hazard cross connections.

B. Reports

The Utility will submit the following to the Division:

1. Annual summary of cross connection inspection to the Division.

XI Fees and Charges

The Utility will publish a list of fees or charges and make them available to the public.