

OCEANSIDE WATER DISTRICT

5390 NETARTS HWY. N.W.

TILLAMOOK, OR. 97141

PHONE (503) 842-6462

FAX (503) 842-3759

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ORDINANCE 96-1

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

MODEL PROGRAM

I PURPOSE

- A. To protect the public potable water supply served by the Oceanside Water District (OWD), which includes PWS # 41-00585 and PWS # 41-00882, 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 on 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 an Oceanside Water District 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, and #333-61-072 state that the water supplier has the primary responsibility for the preventing of water from unapproved-approved sources, or any other substances, from entering the public potable water system.
- B. The Oceanside Water District, Rules and Regulations, adopted.

III RESPONSIBILITY

The Oceanside Water District 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 judgment of the Oceanside Water District, an approved backflow assembly is required at the District's water connection to any customer's premises, the Oceanside Water District, or its delegated agent, shall give notice in writing to said customer to install an approved backflow prevention assembly at each service connection to his

premises. The customer shall, within ninety (90) days, install such approved assembly, or assemblies, at his own expense, and failure or refusal, or inability on the part of the customer to install said assembly or assemblies within ninety (90) days, shall constitute a ground for discontinuing water service to the premises until such assembly or assemblies have been properly installed.

IV DEFINITIONS

A. Approved.

Accepted by the State of Oregon Public Health Division 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 supplier's approved public potable water supply.

C. Backflow.

The flow of water or other liquids, gases or solids from any source back into the distribution piping of the public potable supply system.

D. Backflow Preventer.

A backflow prevention assembly such as a pressure vacuum breaker, a double check valve, or a reduced pressure principle assembly plus the attached resilient seated shut-off valves on the inlet and outlet ends of the assembly and the appropriate test cocks for testing the assembly.

D.1 Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker (to be installed only with OWD approval).

A device which contains a float check (poppet), a check seat and an air inlet vent. When water pressure is reduced to a gauge pressure of zero or below, air enters the assembly, preventing backsiphonage. It is designed to protect against backsiphonage only.

D.2 Double Check Valve Assembly.

An approved assembly consisting of two independently operating check valves, loaded to the closed position by springs or weights, and installed as a unit with, and between, two resilient seated shut-off valves and having suitable connections for testing.

D.3 Double Check Valve with Intermediate Atmospheric Vent.

A device having two (2) spring loaded check valves separated by an atmospheric vent chamber.

D.4 Hose Bibb Vacuum Breaker.

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

D.5 Pressure Vacuum Breaker.

An approved assembly consisting of a spring-loaded check valve loaded to the closed position, an independently operating air inlet valve loaded to the open position and installed as a unit with and between two resilient seated shut-off valves and with suitable connections for testing. It is designed to protect against backsiphonage only.

D.6 Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer.

An approved assembly consisting of a spring-loaded check valve loaded to the closed position, an independently operating air inlet valve loaded to the open position and installed as a unit with and between two resilient seated shut-off valves and with suitable connections for testing. It is designed to protect against backsiphonage only.

E. Backpressure.

Water pressure which exceeds the operating pressure of the public potable water supply.

F. Backsiphonage.

Backflow due to a negative or reduced pressure within the public potable water supply.

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.

A point in the plumbing system where the public potable water supply is connected directly, or has the potential of being connected, to a source of non-potable substance that is not a part of the public potable water supply.

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 inhabit 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 Oceanside Water District 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. District Operator.

The Operator, or his delegated representative in charge of the Oceanside Water District, 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. Utility.

The Oceanside Water District (OWD).

R. 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 Oceanside Water District 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 and is approved by the Division.
- B. The Owner shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross connections and shall follow the provisions of the Oceanside Water District program and the Division's regulations if a cross connection is identified.
- C. If the Oceanside Water District requires that the public supply be protected by containment, the Owner shall be responsible for water quality beyond the outlet end of the containment device and should utilize a backflow assembly for that purpose. He may utilize public health officials, or personnel from the Oceanside Water District, or their delegated representatives, to assist in the survey of the facilities and to assist in the selection of proper fixture outlet assemblies, and the proper installation of these assemblies.

VI REQUIREMENTS

A. Utility.

- 1. On new installations, the Utility will provide an 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 a permit, and perform inspections and testing. In any case a minimum of a double check valve will be required in any new commercial or multiplex housing.

2. For premises existing prior to the start of this program, the Oceanside Water District 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 assemblies in question.
3. The Oceanside Water District 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 operation.
4. The Oceanside Water District shall inform the Owner by letter of any failure to comply, within ten (10) working days of the first inspection. The Oceanside Water District will allow an additional fifteen (15) days for the correction. In the event the Owner fails to comply with necessary correction by the time of the second re-inspection, the Utility will inform the Owner by letter that the water service to the Owner's premises will be terminated within a period not to exceed five (5) days. In the event that the Owner 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 as backflow assembly testers. All charges for these tests will be paid by the Owner of the building or property.
7. The Utility will begin initial premise inspections to determine the nature of existing or potential hazards, following the approval of this program by the Division, during the calendar year 1996 and annually thereafter. Initial focus will be on high hazard industries and commercial premises.
8. A copy of all backflow device inspections will be due to the Utility by December 1st of each year. As a courtesy to backflow device owners, the Utility will mail out a letter on or about September 1st of each year. This letter will inform the owners of any new requirements concerning the Cross Connection Control Program and act as a reminder to the owners of backflow devices of the December inspection due date.

B. Owner.

1. The Owner shall be responsible for the elimination or isolation of all cross connections on his premises.

2. The Owner, 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 Owner shall have corrected any malfunctions of the backflow preventer which is revealed by periodic testing.
4. The Owner shall inform the Utility of any proposed or modified cross connections and also any existing cross connections of which the Owner is aware but has not been found by the Utility.
5. The Owner shall not install a by-pass around any backflow preventer unless there is a backflow preventer of the same type on the by-pass. Owners shall not tamper with backflow assemblies.
6. The Owner shall install backflow preventers in a manner approved by the Utility.
7. The Owner shall install only backflow preventers approved by the Utility.
8. Any Owner 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. Permission to cross connect may be denied by the Utility. The Owner 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 Owner 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.
10. The Owner will ensure that annual testing of their backflow device is completed by December 1st. All testing will be performed by an Oregon licensed tester and a copy of the test results will be due to the Utility by the December 1st due date. A \$50 penalty will be assessed to the owners account for each month or portion thereof that the testing remains overdue. If an inspection is not performed by March 1st of the year following the December 1st due date, the Utility will have the testing conducted and charge the owner for the cost of that test plus penalties.

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 installations of approved backflow prevention assemblies.

VIII EXISTING IN-USE BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

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 assembly must be replaced with any approved assembly suitable for the degree of hazard.

IX PERIODIC TESTING

- A. All testable backflow assemblies 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 assembly will be re-tested at owner's 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 Owner is responsible for spare parts, repair tools, or a replacement assembly. Parallel installation of two (2) assemblies is an effective means of the owner insuring uninterrupted water service during testing or repair of assemblies and is strongly recommended when the owner desires such continuity.
- D. Backflow prevention assemblies 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 Owner.

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. Master files on cross connection permits.
3. Copies of permits and permit applications.
4. Copies of lists and summaries supplied to the District.
5. Initial listing of low hazard cross connections.
6. Initial listing of high hazard cross connections.

B. Reports.

The Utility will submit an annual summary of cross connection inspections to the Division.

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XI QUALIFIED BACKFLOW TESTERS

The Oceanside Water District will publish a list of qualified backflow testers and make the list available to the Public upon request.

PASSED on this _____ day of _____, 1996.

James R. Martin, Chairman
Oceanside Water District
Board of Commissioners

Jean Fitzgerald, Sec./Treas.
Oceanside Water District
Board of Commissioners

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____, 1996.

Notary Public for State of Oregon
My commission expires _____.

**PASSED AND APPROVED AS AMENDED, SECTION VI
REQUIREMENTS, THIS _____ DAY OF DECEMBER 2010.**

Robert Garrigues, Chairperson
Oceanside Water District
Board of Commissioners

Deborah Macartney, Sec./Treas.
Oceanside Water District
Board of Commissioners