



## Safe Drinking Water Is Priceless

Safe drinking water is priceless. Unlike other utility services such as gas or electricity, tap water is consumed.

Federal, state, and local regulations require drinking water to meet quality and safety standards. Liberty takes these regulations seriously and not only meets them, but often exceeds them.

Treated water, however, can become contaminated within the water distribution system by cross connections that result in backflow occurrence.



## We Can Help

Have questions or need help determining if you are in compliance with cross connection requirements? Contact our Cross Connection Hotline at xxxxxxxxxx@libertyutilities.com

Visit our website at libertyenergyandwater.com



# Help Prevent Cross Connections

Under State regulations, the Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention Program is designed to protect the drinking water system from the possibility of contamination through cross connections. With your cooperation, we can increase the effectiveness of this important program!

Please complete this survey and return it to Liberty within 30 days of receipt. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that a high risk cross connection exists, and you will be required to install a reduced pressure zone backflow prevention device.

Thank you for helping us to protect the safety of the water that serves your community. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to give us a call.

## Cross Connection Survey

**Please complete and return to us.**

Premise No.: [INSERT Premise – Prem (Col. XXXX)]

For Service to: [INSERT Premise House No, Premise Street, Premise City (Col. xx, xx, xx)]

Please check the box that best describes your home or premise:

- Single Family Residence
- Multi-Family (2-4 Units)
- Church/Religious Purposes
- Apartment with \_\_\_\_ Units
- Day Care
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what water is used for at your home or premise (please check all that apply):

- Typical (i.e., toilets, sinks, drinking fountains, outside water faucets, household laundry, or dish washing appliances)
- Private well(s) supplying any part of your facility
- Connected into lawn sprinkler irrigation system
- Pool filled by hose without backflow device
- Connected to water operated/cooled equipment/appliances/ boilers

If you have an existing backflow device(s), please provide the information below and attach a copy of the most recent backflow test report(s) for each device. If more than three, attach information. If no backflow device(s) is installed on your plumbing, please skip this section.

Device:  Reduced Pressure     Double Check     Pressure Vacuum Breaker  
 Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_ Online to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Device:  Reduced Pressure     Double Check     Pressure Vacuum Breaker  
 Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Serial #: \_\_\_\_\_ Online to: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual completing this survey (please print): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed survey by mail, fax or email to:  
 Cross Connection Control Department  
 Mailing Address: [insert here]  
 Fax: xxx-xxx-xxxx | Email: xxxxxxxxxx@libertyutilities.com

You can assist in preventing backflow contamination by installing an approved backflow prevention device, if required, and by properly maintaining and testing your backflow prevention device(s).

Backflow prevention devices can be installed by a qualified professional who can provide you with a cost estimate before installation. Your cooperation with this cross-connection control and backflow prevention program will help keep the drinking water in your community safe.

## What You Can Do

Unsafe habits inside and outside the home may result in a cross connection. When this happens, water of lesser quality can backflow and contaminate the community's water system.

### Common Cross Connection Examples - What Not to Do

Do NOT submerge a hose under water when filling a pool. **Tip:** Set up the hose so it stays out of the pool and above the water.

Do NOT leave a hose connected to a pesticide or fertilizer sprayer, causing the chemicals to enter your drinking water. **Tip:** Install hose bib vacuum breakers on all outdoor spigots.

Do NOT allow a garden hose to sit in a puddle, watering can or bucket of soapy water. **Tip:** Avoid submerging hoses (or faucets) and unscrew the hose at the spigot after use.

Do NOT use toilets that are not outfitted with anti-siphon protection. **Tip:** Check that your toilet is outfitted properly with anti-siphon ballcock assemblies.

Do NOT connect to auxiliary water sources (private well, spring, cistern). This is not allowed when connected to a public water supply. **Tip:** Disconnect all auxiliary sources. It's the law!



### Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention - What You Should Do

Install an approved, testable backflow prevention device on lawn irrigation, boat dock water connections, swimming pools, and fire sprinkler systems. Test the device every year.

Consider installing a backflow preventer, such as a residential dual check, on your home's water service line. Note: All new construction is required to include the installation of back flow prevention.

Install hose bib vacuum breakers on fixtures used for hose connections, including outdoor, basement, and laundry room spigots.

Maintain air gaps. Do not submerge hoses or faucets or place hoses where they can become submerged.

Check that your toilets are outfitted with anti-siphon ballcock assemblies.



### Guidelines for Installing Backflow Devices on Water Service Connections

Backflow devices are typically installed close to the water meter. Devices should always be installed on the customers' side of the meter (the side that leads to the internal plumbing). There is typically an arrow on the check valve itself, which indicates the direction of water flow. This arrow should be pointing away from the meter and toward the internal plumbing.

## Definitions

A **cross connection** is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. Cross connections must be properly protected or eliminated.

Water distribution systems are designed so that water flows in one direction from the distribution system to the consumer. However, certain conditions can cause an undesirable **backflow**, in which the water flows in the opposite direction and carries other contaminants or pollutants into the public drinking water supply through a cross connection.

**Backpressure** occurs when non-potable water pressure is greater than potable water pressure.

**Back-siphonage** occurs when the supply line pressure falls below atmospheric pressure, creating a vacuum. When this happens, a reversal of flow can take place from the non-potable side to the potable water supply.