



Liberty Utilities®

# PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER

California regulations require that all industrial, commercial and institutional connections to the public water system shall be inspected for potential cross-connections. Facilities flagged by this inspection are required to install a backflow prevention device.

Facility inspections and backflow prevention device installations are necessary to ensure safe drinking water for the entire community.

Please do your part in keeping your community's drinking water safe for everyone by checking for cross-connections.

## CONTACT US

For more information, visit the Liberty Utilities website.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at (800) 727-5987. You can contact the Cross-Connections Specialist at (562) 805-2038.

9750 Washburn Rd., Downey, CA 90241  
800-727-5987 | [BackflowDowney@libertyutilities.com](mailto:BackflowDowney@libertyutilities.com)

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## CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

## WHAT IS CROSS-CONNECTION?

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.

An easy way to visualize backflow is to think about sucking on a straw. Your mouth provides negative pressure to transfer water out of the glass. If you stop sucking on the straw, the water in the straw drains back into the glass. Now the glass contains all the water that was in the straw, as well as some water that was in your mouth. The illustration below shows how backflow could occur in your home.

## WHAT IS BACKFLOW?

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.

## WHAT CAUSES BACKFLOW?

There are two conditions that contribute to backflow:

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.

