

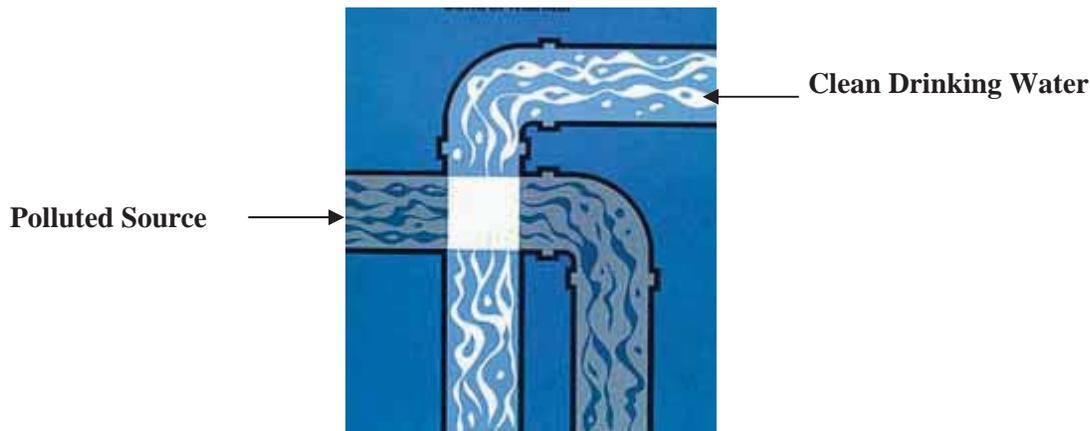
Att. I - Sample Cross Connection Language

Community public water systems **should** include cross connection information in their CCRs. You may want to include it to fulfill your cross-connection education requirement.

Two examples of what you can include are inserted below.

Example 1:

What Is a Cross Connection? What Can I Do about It?



A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. The pollution can come from your own home. For instance, you're going to spray fertilizer on your lawn. You hook up your hose to the sprayer that contains the fertilizer. If the water pressure drops (say because of fire hydrant use in the town) when the hose is connected to the fertilizer, the fertilizer may be sucked back into the drinking water pipes through the hose. Using an attachment on your hose called a backflow-prevention device can prevent this problem.

The _____ Water Department recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices, such as a low cost hose bib vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections. You can purchase this at a hardware store or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water system in your town. For additional information on cross connections and on the status of your water system's cross connection program, please contact _____.

Example 2:

Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention

The [PWS Name] makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe, and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells from underground aquifers or withdrawal point from a surface water source, throughout the

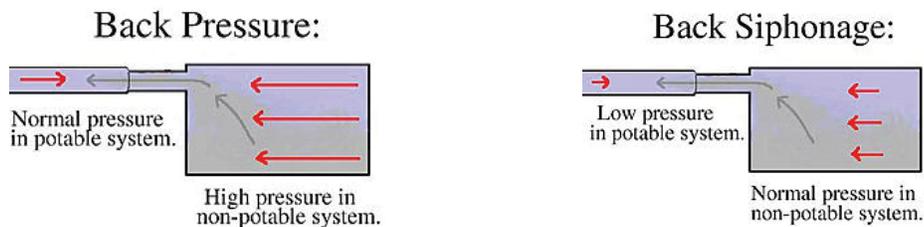
entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business? There is still a need to protect the water quality from contamination caused by a cross-connection.

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipments that allow the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids, or gases (hazardous to humans) in event of a backflow.

What is backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of water can occur when the pressure created by equipment or a system, such as a boiler or air-conditioning, is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (backsiphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of. And every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent them.



What you can do to help prevent a cross-connection

Without the proper protection something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. In fact, over half of the country's cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses. There are very simple steps that you, as a drinking water user, can take to prevent such hazards:

- **Never** submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains, or chemicals.
- **Never** attached a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker on every threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Buy appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer.
- Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections.

If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial, or institutional facility you must have your property's plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection, contact [PWS Name] to schedule a cross-connection survey.

The Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.00, requires all public water systems to have an approved and fully implemented Cross-Connection Control Program (CCCP). The [PWS Name] is working diligently to protect the public health of its drinking water customers from the hazards caused by unprotected cross-connections. We are doing this through the implementation of our cross-connection survey program, elimination or proper protection of all identified cross-connections, the registration of all cross-connections protected by reduced pressure backflow preventers (RPBPs) or double check valve assemblies (DCVAs), and the implementation of a testing program for all RPBPs and DCVAs.

The following chart shows how the [PWS Name]'s CCCP is being implemented:

Cross-connection Surveys Information

Type of Facilities	Total # Facilities Served	# Facilities Surveyed for Cross-connection	# Facilities Remaining to be Surveyed for Cross-connection	# Facilities Surveyed for the First Time in [year]	# Facilities Re-surveyed in [year]
Commercial					
Industrial					
Institutional					
Municipal					

Backflow Prevention Devices and Assemblies Testing Information

Type of Backflow Preventer	# Devices or Assemblies	Test Frequency	Total # of Routine Test	# Test Failures	# Re-test
RPBP		Semi-annual*			
DCVA		Annual*			
PVB (if applicable)		Annual **			

* Required frequency

** Recommended

If you have any questions, please contact [PWS Staff Name] at _____ - _____ - _____.

Some Examples of Common Cross-connections

