



"Safety, Reliability, and Excellence!"

Wooster Water Utilities Water Backflow Prevention



Did you know that common hazards in and around your house can contaminate your drinking water as well as your neighbors?

These hazards are known as "cross connections", and can result in contaminated water backflowing into your home's drinking water supply without you even knowing.

What is a Cross Connection?

Any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping.

Why be concerned?

ALL cross-connections pose a potential health risk. Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your water supply plumbing system and is used

for drinking, cooking or bathing. Chemical burns, fires, explosions, poisonings, illness and death have all been caused by backflow through cross-connections.

What are some common residential cross connection hazards?

- * Hose connections to chemical solution aspirators to feed lawn and tree herbicides.
- * Lawn irrigation systems.
- * Chemically treated heating systems / boilers.
- * Hose connections to a water outlet or laundry basin.
- * Swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.
- * Private and/or non-potable water supply sources located on the property.
- * Water-operated sump pump drain devices.
- * Feed lots/livestock holding areas or barnyards fed through pipes or hoses from your water supply plumbing.



What can I do?

- * Complete the "Wooster Cross Connection Control Survey" by clicking on this link [SURVEY](#)
- * Be aware of and eliminate cross-connections.
- * Maintain air gaps. Do not submerge hoses or place them where they could become submerged.
- * Use hose bib vacuum breakers on fixtures (hose connections in the basement, laundry room and outside).
- * Install approved, testable backflow prevention devices on lawn irrigation systems.
- * Do not create a connection between an auxiliary water system (well, cistern, body of water) and the water supply plumbing.
- * *If you have a device it must be tested every 12 months to ensure compliance.*

What must be done to protect the public water system?

The City of Wooster Utilities Department must determine potential and actual hazards. If a hazard exists at a customer's water supply service connection, the customer will be required to install and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the meter and/or at the source of the hazard.

Wooster's Backflow Prevention Program:

For more information on Wooster's Backflow Prevention Program please contact the Utilities Manager, Nathan W. Coey at **330-263-5284** or via email at ncoey@woosteroh.com

The City of Wooster utilizes a web based portal "Aqua Backflow" to manage and track the program. Aqua Backflow is a trusted partner in ensuring compliance with Ohio EPA regulations. For more information please go to the city website at <https://www.woosteroh.com/building-standards>