

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Introduction

A "cross connection" is an unprotected actual or potential piping or plumbing arrangement between a customer's residential piping system and the public water system through which a substance other than potable water could backflow into the public system.

The most common problems in a home are commode flush tank valves submerged in the tank, the connection of hoses or other devices to hose bibs that are not protected by a hose bib vacuum breaker, and the use of yard hydrants that have a drain hole underground. Most homes can be adequately protected by applying an approved vacuum breaker on all hose bibs and through the installation of an anti-siphon flush valve.

Hoses left submerged in swimming pools, kitchen sinks, bathtubs, animal watering troughs, or having chemical sprayers attached to them while weed-killing are conditions that can be extremely hazardous. Other potential hazards can apply if hoses are left lying on the ground where contaminants such as fertilizer, garden chemicals, or other liquids can be siphoned into the hose and into the home.

Frost proof yard hydrants drain into the ground when turned off. The drain hole underground could allow contaminated groundwater to be siphoned into the home. An approved backflow device installed on the line feeding the hydrants will provide adequate protection but is expensive. An alternative is to just plug the hole or pipe the drain to daylight.

All inside and outside hose bibs except those on dishwashers and washing machines will require vacuum breakers. Vacuum breakers may prevent hose bibs and frost proof yard hydrants from draining. Please read manufactures recommendations for winter draining or purchase the frost-proof type that self-drain.

The waterworks owner has the primary responsibility for preventing substances from an unknown, questionable, or non-potable source from entering the public water supply.

The consumer, homeowner, or resident also shares in this responsibility and has the primary responsibility for preventing pollutants or contaminants from entering the residential piping system.

We are taking the first step in implementing the Cross Connection Control Program. This is our first mailing of the residential questionnaire. It is our hope that all homes come into compliance by the end of 2013. We will be required to send out a questionnaire each year to show that you are still adequately protected.

Your cooperation is needed for us to have an effective program to eliminate cross connections in our water systems. You are asked to complete and return the survey form below to the address located at the bottom of the form by the due date of your next water bill.

We will contact you to determine the most cost effective means to provide you and the community protection from cross connections and backflow.

Please contact Scottie Skeens or Daniel Phipps at 276-762-0159 if you have any questions.

WISE COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE AUTHORITY WATERWORKS QUESTIONNAIRE

Name _____
Mailing Address _____ 911 Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____
Property Owner if not current resident
Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Please check any item that may apply to your premises

Outside spigots without vacuum breaker
 Swimming pool

Baptismal pool
 Dye vat

- Animal watering trough
- Shampoo bowl/sink
- Private well, spring, or cistern
- Darkroom/photo development
- Frost-proof spigot without vacuum breaker
- Lawn irrigation sprinkler system
- Fire protection sprinkler system
- Mop sink/laundry sink/ utility sink with hose bib threads
- Hose end sprayer for fertilizer or other chemicals

- Steam or hot water heating system
- Carbonated drink machine
- Yard hydrant/yard spigot/standpipe
- Fish pond
- Pressure booster pump
- Solar heating system
- Dialysis equipment
- Water storage tank
- Pressure washers

Please return form to Wise County Public Service Authority office at
P.O. Box 3388
Wise, VA. 24293