

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Dear Utility Customer,

The Potable water supplied to your facility is provided by a water system owned by South Sumter Utility Company (SSU). A critical element to operating a potable water system is to ensure the protection of the health and safety of the water supplied. One of the ways that this is achieved is by requiring that a Backflow Prevention Assembly be installed at all service connections. A Backflow Prevention Assembly is typically either a Double Check (DC) or Reduced Pressure Assembly (RP) and is located on the customer side of the water meter. This is further explained in the Cross-Connection Control Program Handbook that was created by SSU in compliance with the rules of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The handbook outlines the requirements of the customer, which includes installation and annual testing and maintenance on all Backflow Prevention Assemblies. A copy of the handbook can be downloaded at www.DistrictGov.org by selecting the following: Departments - Utilities - Commercial Customers - and then under the heading Cross-Connection Control Handbook, select SSU - Download Here.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING CROSS-CONNECTION AND BACKFLOW

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection is a point in a plumbing system where the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable source.

Where might cross-connections be found?

They can be found in all plumbing systems in areas such as:

- Wash Basins and Service Sinks
- Ornamental Fountains
- Medical and Dental Equipment
- Hose Bibs
- Photo Developing Equipment
- Fire Sprinkler Systems

What is backflow?

It is the unwanted flow of non-potable or contaminated fluids back into the customer's plumbing system and/or the public water system. There are two types of backflow, see below:

- Backsiphonage - caused by a negative pressure in the supply line to a facility or plumbing fixture.
- Backpressure - can occur when the potable water supply is connected to another system operated at a higher pressure or has the ability to create pressure. Primary causes are booster pumps, pressure vessels, elevated plumbing, etc.

What is a Cross-Connection Control Program?

It is a program required by the FDEP to detect and prevent possible sources of non-potable water or contaminants from entering the public water supply.

Why do backflow assemblies need to be tested every year?

A backflow assembly is a mechanical device that needs maintenance just as a vehicle does. The annual test indicates if the internal check valves and mechanics are working properly. Annual testing and maintenance, if necessary, is also required by FDEP and SSU.

Who do I contact to have my backflow assembly tested?

Typically, you would contact a plumber. It is important to ask for a current copy of their backflow prevention testing certification to ensure they are qualified to perform the test. In order to repair a backflow prevention assembly they will need a separate certification that allows them to perform repair activities.


 Community Development Districts
 Utilities

WUDD COMMERCIAL CONNECTIONS APPROVED BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES	
Connection Type	Approved BFP Assembly
Medical/Dental/Veterinary/Eye Care	RP
Laboratory/Blood Center	RP
Grocery Store	RP
Beauty or Nail Salon/Spa	RP
Home Improvement/Hardware	RP
Pool	RP
Fire Protection System (Without Chemical Additives)	DCVA
Fire Protection System (With Chemical Additives)	RP
Funeral Home	RP
Maintenance Facility (Golf, Landscape, etc.)	RP
Wastewater Pumping Station	RP
Wastewater Treatment Plant	RP
Commercial Car Wash	RP
Assisted Living/Nursing Facility	RP
Skilled Nursing Facility	RP
Commercial Laundries/Dry Cleaners	RP
Automotive Repair/Tire Store	RP
Photo Processing Facilities	RP
Pest Control Companies	RP
Cooling Towers	RP
Hospitals	RP
Definitions	
DCVA	Double Check Valve Assembly
RP	Reduced Pressure Assembly
Notes	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Premises which are served by a stormwater-based irrigation water system shall be protected by a reduced pressure assembly. 2. Backflow Prevention Assemblies for facility types not described above shall be submitted to and approved by WUDD or its authorized representative prior to installation. 3. An alternate Backflow Prevention Assembly may be submitted for approval. Alternate assemblies shall be approved by WUDD or its authorized representative prior to installation. 	