



CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Dear Utility Customer,

The Potable water supplied to your facility is provided by a water system owned by Middleton Utility Company (MU). MU is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the public water supply beginning at the source and ending at the point of delivery to the customer. 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. Backflow Prevention Assemblies are installed on water service lines to all commercial buildings, irrigation, and fire line services. This is further explained in the Cross-Connection Control Program Handbook that was created by MU in compliance with the rules of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The Cross-Connection Control Program Handbook outlines the requirements of the customer, which includes installation and annual testing and maintenance on all Backflow Prevention Assemblies. A copy of the Cross-Connection Control Handbook can be downloaded on our website at www.DistrictGov.org by selecting the following: Departments - Utilities - Commercial Customers - and then under the heading Cross-Connection Control, select MU.

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
- Irrigation sprinkler Systems
- 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?

The 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 MU.

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| MU 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 MU or its authorized representative prior to installation. 3. An alternate Backflow Prevention Assembly may be submitted for approval. Alternate assemblies shall be approved by MU or its authorized representative prior to installation. | |