

Cross Connection Alert

Drinking water can be contaminated when the public water system is connected to a home without a backflow prevention device. Contaminants can be unintentionally siphoned or otherwise introduced into your household drinking water and the LAC water system. A garden hose sprayer with an attached fertilizer mixer is an example of a cross connection. A back-siphon situation can be created if the pressure within the mixer container becomes higher than the pressure in the water system. Then water-fertilizer mix can flow into the household plumbing system and the water system. LAC recommends that a vacuum-breaker spigot be used at the hose connection to prevent back-siphoning at the hose connection to protect both the household plumbing and the water system.



Back-siphoning can also potentially occur during emergency water use by the fire department and due to large water main breaks. A household backflow prevention device would prevent contamination to your household plumbing due to either of these scenarios.

Private wells **require** specific approval from the LAC Board of Trustees and the member must assume all liability for the well and provide backflow prevention devices to ensure that LAC water lines are not subject to contamination from the private water source.

During new construction, you are **required** to install a Watts #7 dual check backflow prevention device on the water inlet line at a point immediately after the line enters the structure in a manner that will prevent all water in the structure from returning to the inlet line. We offer the Watts #7 dual check backflow prevention device to our members at cost. We strongly recommend that all existing structures be retrofit with these devices.

Please contact us at 247-5239 or stop by the office at 206 Old Portland Road for more information and for assistance in remedying cross connections at your home. We're here to help assure that you always have sparkling clean, safe drinking water.