



Protect Your Drinking Water



Understanding Cross-Connections & Backflow Devices

At Clearlake Oaks County Water District, we are committed to providing safe, clean drinking water to your property. An important part of maintaining water safety is preventing cross-connections, which can introduce contaminants into the drinking water supply.

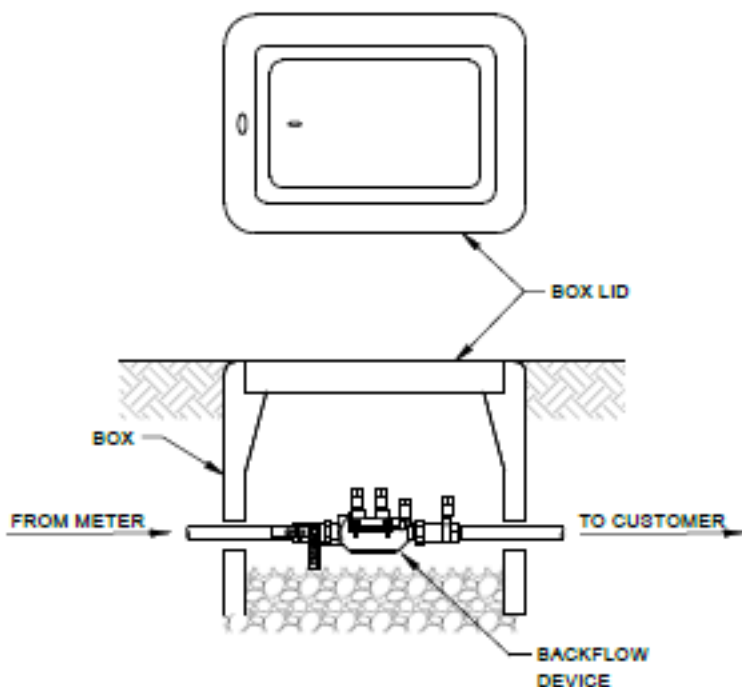
A cross-connection occurs when non-potable water (water that is not safe for drinking) comes into contact with your drinking water system. Common sources of non-potable water include wash water in buckets, auxiliary water supplies (such as lakes, rivers, streams or private wells), swimming pools, landscape irrigation systems, pesticide or fertilizer sprayers, booster pumps, and various appliances or equipment that use water.

Normally, drinking water flows in one direction—into your property. However, unprotected cross-connections can allow contaminated, non-potable water to backflow, or reverse flow, into your drinking water system. This backflow can compromise the water quality on your property, and pose a serious risk to the public water supply and overall public health.



What can you do to keep drinking water safe?

- Avoid cross connections. Never submerge hoses in pools, buckets, or other containers.
- Inspect your plumbing to avoid potential cross-connections between your drinking water system and non-potable water sources
- Schedule annual device testing.



For more information on cross-connections, backflow prevention, and related requirements, please visit our website at www.clocwd.org or contact our Administration Office.

Additional information will be shared periodically throughout the year, and we're always available to answer any questions you may have.

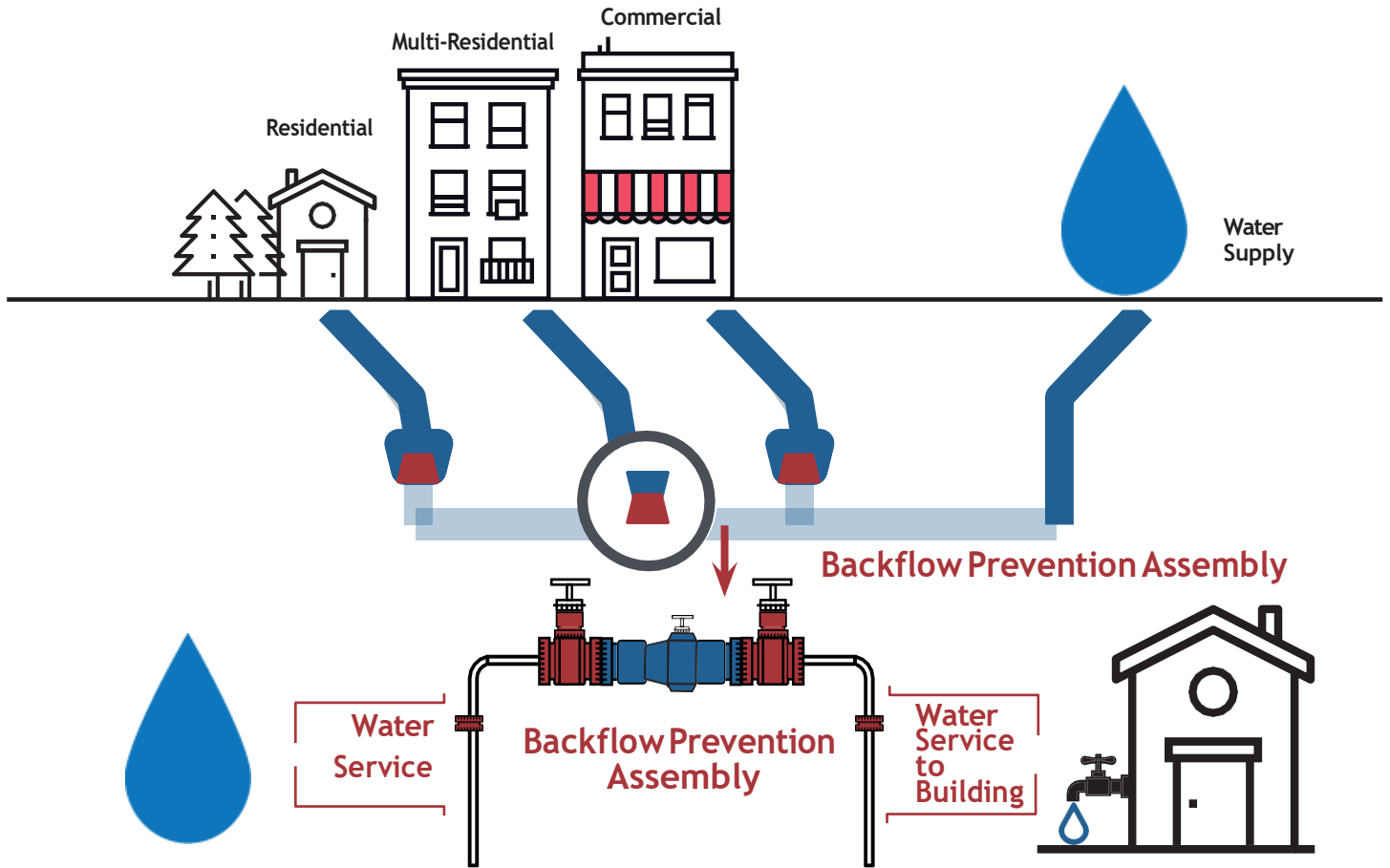
BACKFLOW PREVENTION



- ✓ Required by state and federal law
- ✓ Required by state and federal law to be tested annually
- ✓ Keeps drinking water clean and safe for you and your neighbors

Cross-Connection

An actual or potential connection between a potable water supply and any non-potable substance or source.



Backflow




The undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquids, gases, or other substances into the water system.

Backflow Prevention Assembly

Any approved assembly used to prevent backflow into a potable water system.

COMMON CROSS-CONNECTION EXAMPLES

These common household and commercial connections to the public water system pose a threat to our clean water if not protected by the appropriate Backflow Prevention Assembly.

-  Irrigation Systems
-  Fire Sprinkler Systems
-  Hose Bibs