

## Steps to follow:

### FOR THE INSTALLATION, INSPECTION, AND CERTIFICATION OF A BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE(S):

- Employ the services of a plumber who is certified in backflow prevention devices.
- Your plumber submits a completed installation application with proper installation drawings.
- Your plumber receives Water Services' approval.
- Your plumber obtains Water Services' permits.
- Your plumber completes the installation per the approved plans and tests the device(s).
- Your plumber completes and submits an inspection form to Water Services.
- Your plumber calls Water Services to schedule an inspection

Visit our website for more detailed information and downloadable forms at

[www.mcoho.org/water](http://www.mcoho.org/water)

or

Call us at (937)781-2631

## On-line Resources

- [www.mcoho.org/water](http://www.mcoho.org/water)
- [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)
- [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)
- [www.com.state.oh.us](http://www.com.state.oh.us)
- [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org)
- [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)
- [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org)

and for the kids...

Montgomery County's own

[www.deweyand splash.org](http://www.deweyand splash.org)



### Backflow Prevention

Montgomery County Water Services  
1850 Spaulding Road  
Kettering, OH 45432  
Phone: 937-781-2500  
[www.mcoho.org/water](http://www.mcoho.org/water)

## Plumbing Information

# BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL



**MONTGOMERY**  
C O U N T Y

**WATER SERVICES**

[www.mcoho.org/water](http://www.mcoho.org/water)

## INTRODUCTION

The nearly universal acceptance of the US public water supplies as safe is a tribute to the successful management of our nation's water systems. With the growth in the complexity of public infrastructure and the extensive use of water and sewer systems, there is a danger of potential contamination of our water supply. This increased risk to the integrity of our water systems is a concern of the Montgomery County Water Services. The responsibility to protect this community's public water supplies rests with Water Services and our customers.

## BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM (BPCCC) ELEMENTS:

- Public Education
- Target Audience Notification
- Compliance Enforcement

## What is Backflow?

Backflow is any reversal of flow within a piping system. There are two situations that can cause a backflow:

**BACKPRESSURE** can cause backflow when the water pressure inside a boiler or other equipment connected to a consumer's piping system become higher than the pressure in the distribution system. Some types of pressurized equipment contain soap, acid, anti-freeze, or other undesirable substances.

**BACKSIPHONAGE** is caused by a sudden loss of pressure in the public water mains. This loss of pressure can be caused by a broken water main, the Fire Department using large quantities of water to fight a fire, or simply by opening a fire hydrant to test it. Any buildings near the break or the fire hydrant could experience a lowering of the water pressure. These are examples of incidences that may cause backsiphonage to occur.

## What is a Cross-Connection?

A cross connection is an arrangement of piping that could allow undesirable water, sewage, or chemical solutions to enter Montgomery County's water system. Any connection between your drinking water and an unapproved source of water that can combine the two would be considered a cross-connection. Some common places cross connections can occur include:

- Wash basins and service sinks
- Hose bibs and garden hoses
- Irrigation sprinkler systems
- Fire sprinkler system

Visit our website at [www.mcohoio.com/water](http://www.mcohoio.com/water) for more detailed information



## How can backflow be prevented?

We can prevent backflow by eliminating cross-connections and using backflow prevention devices.

- The device must be installed by a backflow certified plumber and meet all requirements.
- The backflow prevention device must be maintained in good working order.
- Certification by a certified plumber must be conducted and submitted to Water Services on each device a minimum of every 12 months.

## Where must backflow prevention devices be installed?

Montgomery County Water Services requires a reduced pressure backflow prevention assembly to be installed on each water line entering a commercial building, industrial facility, or multifamily residential building of more than three units.

Fire lines, usually located in utility or maintenance rooms, are required to have double check valve assemblies which are primary protective devices.



Reduced Pressure Device



Double Check Valve Device

Reduced Pressure and Double Check Valve devices must be installed inside a building unless they are protected from cold temperatures and freezing by the installation of a hot box. They cannot be installed in pits below grade level.

The type of protection required is based upon the potential for back flow and the degree of hazard to the public water supply.

## NOTICE

**FAILURE TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN THE REQUIRED BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES MAY RESULT IN THE TERMINATION OF YOUR WATER SERVICES - UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.**