

What is backflow and how can we prevent backflow incidents?

Backflow is the unintended reversal of water from the direction it is intended to flow. LCWSA's water distribution system is intended to flow water from our main to your service line into your building.

When pressure operating systems fluctuate, it may cause water to flow in the opposite direction which leads to your water coming back into the distribution system and creating a potentially hazardous cross-connection.

For your safety – and required by law – all customers must install and maintain backflow prevention devices in their water systems.

Additionally, customers should implement good usage habits to reduce the potential for backflow incidents, such as:

- Never leaving a hose submerged in a bucket of non-potable liquid
- Ensuring the water level in any tank of liquid is below any type of faucet or inlet level

Taking Action for Safety

Under the 1974 Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources requires that customers eliminate cross-connections or install backflow prevention devices. This regulation applies to individual homes, businesses, and commercial and industrial establishments.

The regulation requires that backflow prevention devices be tested at least once each year. When necessary, they must be repaired to ensure property operation.

Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority's Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program is part of the Water Rules and Regulations.

What is a Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program?

The purpose of a Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program is to protect the public potable water supply from possible contamination or pollution by isolating, within its customers' internal distribution system, contaminant which could backflow or backsiphon into the public water system. Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority's Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program promotes the elimination of existing cross-connections between the potable, public water system and non-potable systems.

Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority (LCWSA) is committed to protecting drinking water quality. Through the Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program, LCWSA is working to eliminate the potential for backflow incidents to occur.



Contact LCWSA

at (570) 546-8005 or www.lcwsa.net

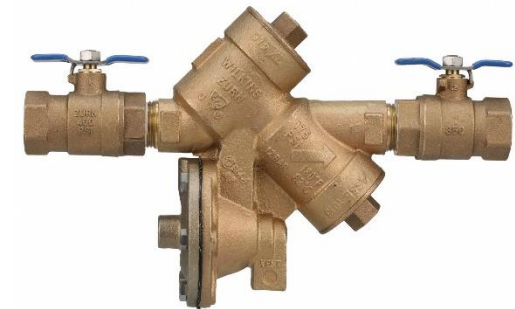
for more information about cross-connections at your home or business.



Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program

- **Do you have a public water service connection?**
- **Are you a commercial or industrial property?**
- **Is there a kitchen, bathroom, or faucet in your building?**

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, you are in danger of contaminating the water supply.



Contract Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority (LCWSA) at (570) 546-8005 or www.lcwsa.net for more information about cross-connections and backflow prevention devices for your business.

Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB)

Pressure Vacuum Breakers were created in response to the need to have a vacuum breaker that could be utilized under constant pressure and could be tested in line. They are comprised of a spring on top of a disc and float assembly, two gate valves, test cocks, and an additional first check.



Zurn Wilkins Pressure Vacuum Breaker

Double Check Valve (DC)

These devices are essentially two single check valves coupled within one body and furnished with test cocks and two tightly closing gate valves. Double Check Valves can be tested to determine if either or both check valves are inoperative or fouled by debris.



Zurn Wilkins Double Check Assembly

Double Check Detector Check (DCDC)

This device is an outgrowth of the double check valve and is mainly used in fire line installations. Its purpose is to protect the potable supply line from possible contamination from fire line chemical additives, booster pump fire line backpressure, stagnant "black water" that sits in fire lines over extended periods, and the detection of any water movement in the fire line water due to leakage or deliberate water theft. It consists of two spring loaded check valves, a bypass assembly with water meter and double check valve, and two tightly closing gate valves.



Watts Double Check Detector Assembly

Residential Dual Check (RDC)

Residential Dual Checks satisfy the need to furnish reliable and inexpensive backsiphonage and backpressure protection for individual residences. These devices protect the main potable supply of water from household hazards such as toxic insect and garden sprays. Residential Dual Checks are sized for 1/2", 3/4", and 1" service lines and are installed immediately downstream of the water meter.



Zurn Wilkins Reduced Pressure Backflow Preventer



Watts Residential Dual Check Valve

Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer (RPZ)

These devices achieve maximum protection against backsiphonage and backpressure conditions. Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventers are essentially modified double check valves with an atmospheric vent capability placed between the two checks. This ensures that the zone between the two checks always has at least two pounds less pressure than the supply pressure. Even when both checks become fouled, this device can still protect against backsiphonage and backpressure. Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventers can be used under constant pressure and at high hazard installations.