



CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is a Cross Connection?

A: A Cross Connection is any connection between a potable water system and any source of contamination through which contaminated water could enter the potable water system. Cross connections occur through the processes of either backflow, backpressure, or backsiphonage. An example of this is a garden hose attached to a service sink with the end of the hose submerged in a tub full of detergent, supply lines connected to bottom-fed tanks, supply lines to boilers.



Q: Why do I need a Backflow Prevention device installed on my water service?

A: During a field survey by a Backflow Prevention Specialists (Cross Connection Control Specialist) your property was identified as having the potential to create a cross-connection between the potable water supply and on-site usage of water, chemicals, etc.



Q: Who gives Joshua Basin Water District the authority to mandate the installation of backflow prevention devices?

A: The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 makes each public water supply utility responsible for the quality of water at a customer's tap. Regulations relating to cross-connection control are set forth in the California Administrative Code of Regulations, Title 17, Chapter 5, Sections 7583-7622.



Q: What if I don't install a Backflow Prevention device?

A: Under Article 8.9, of the Joshua Basin Water District Rules and Regulations, allows for the disconnection of water service if devices are not installed or are removed after installation.

Q: How much does it cost to install a backflow prevention device?

A: JBWD estimates the basic cost of a 1-inch Backflow Prevention device is approximately \$500. This cost does not include any concrete or asphalt removal and replacement; as well, JBWD will charge a follow up inspection fee of approximately \$50.



Q: Are there any requirements for device installation?

A: Attached is JBWD Standard Drawing No. P-20. All installations less than 2-inch in size must be installed to meet these specification details.

Q: Who can install Backflow Prevention assemblies?

A: There is no requirement regarding “who” can install a backflow protection device, however, the device installation must be constructed per the attached JBWD Standard Drawing P-20. Once installation is completed JBWD will verify correct installation.



Q: Does JBWD maintain the device once I pay for the installation?

A: No, You as the customer are responsible for the maintenance of the device. Annual testing of the device is required. JBWD will provide a courtesy notice each year to remind you of the annual testing requirements.

Type the below link into your URL to view an interactive video on cross connection; this video may not address your individual criteria, but will provide a better understanding of backflow problems and how devices are used to protect the water system from harmful cross-connections.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbv9W7EJ-OI>

