

Who is qualified to perform a cross-connection survey?

The required survey and backflow device certification can be performed only by a plumber licensed by the State of Illinois and approved by the Illinois EPA as a Cross-Connection Control Device Inspector (CCCDI). A list of qualified CCCDI contractors has been provided with your initial survey notice and may also be found on the Town's website at www.normal.org under the Inspection Department Building Division link.



What do these abbreviations or terms mean?

BFP—Backflow Preventer. A device used to prevent the backwards flow of water.

CCCDI—Cross-Connection Control Device Inspector. A person licensed and certified by the State of Illinois to evaluate a plumbing system for illegal connections and potential backflow situations.

EPA—Environmental Protection Agency. The state agency that creates rules and regulations for public water providers.

Potable—Water intended for personal use or drinking consumption.

Why is this required and who is responsible?

The Town of Normal provides the community with an average of 4 million gallons of water per day. The importance and responsibility of providing safe drinking water to our consumers cannot be underestimated. The purpose of this program is to safeguard against the contamination of the public water supply!

Pursuant to the requirements of the Illinois EPA, an operator of a public water supply system (the Town) is required to obtain and keep records of cross-connection and backflow prevention devices. The Town of Normal Cross-Connection Program requires water customers with commercial property to have a survey in order to evaluate the potable water system for illegal cross connections and potential backflow situations. The water customer is responsible to secure the necessary cross-connection survey, device inspection, and subsequent repairs where deficiencies are cited.

It is the Town's responsibility to notify the water customer of their duty to secure a survey and inspection. **Failure to comply will result in the issuance of a Final Notice with the advisory that the water service to the building will be discontinued!**

Disconnection of water service is never the Town's preference and is only used as a last resort to ensure compliance with this Illinois EPA requirement.

Town of Normal Cross-Connection Control Program



Working to Provide
Safe & Clean Water

Program Administrator
Randy Schoolcraft, CCCDI
(309) 454-9584
rschoolcraft@normal.org

Where are plumbing cross connections found?

Whenever a plumbing fixture is connected to the drinking water supply, a potential cross-connection exists. Fortunately, many of the plumbing fixtures have built-in backflow protection. Examples of cross connection that can lead to backflow are:

Wash basins and service sinks
Outdoor hose bibs
Irrigation or lawn sprinkler systems
Swimming pools and spas
Solar heat systems
Fire sprinkler systems
Auxiliary water supplies (wells)
Photo developing equipment
Laboratory equipment
Garden hose attachments
Food processing equipment
Boiler systems
Chemical feed equipment
Ornamental fountains



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a cross connection? A cross connection is a point in a plumbing system where the potable (drinkable) water supply is or can be connected to a non-potable (non-drinkable) source.

What are we protecting the public water supply from? The goal is to protect your drinking water supply from pollution or contamination by keeping water that has entered a private facility from flowing back into the public water system.

What causes water to flow backward? The most common reason is back-siphonage. This is caused by the public supply pressure being less than the pressure in a private plumbing system. Back-siphonage occurs when there is a sudden drop in water pressure in the water distribution system due to main breaks or during intense fire fighting operations. A second reason can be back-pressure. Heating systems, elevated tanks, and pressure-producing systems can create pressure in the customer's plumbing that exceeds the supply (Town) pressure.

What are the Town fees for the program?

There are two parts to the fee structure and it will vary based on your particular occupancy or building operation. The fee payable to the Town for processing and maintaining the survey record is \$35.00. If a property has existing BFP devices, the fee is \$15.00 per device. If a property, through a survey, is required to add a BFP device the fee shall be added to the \$35 survey fee. These fees are separate from the charges of the CCCDI contractor who performs the survey and inspection of the property.

What is a backflow preventer?

The device that prevents the potential for contamination of the public water supply is called a backflow preventer (BFP). Your building may or may not have a BFP depending of a variety of factors related to your business, occupancy or operation.

A backflow preventer is a mechanical device that uses valves to prevent potentially contaminated water from flowing backwards into the public water supply. To be most effective, the device should be installed immediately after the water meter on the customer side of the water service line.

Like any mechanical device, a BFP is subject to failure and requires maintenance. As part of the Cross-Connection survey, BFPs are required to be inspected to ensure that they are in working condition. Each BFP device requires the submittal of a report to confirm the BFP is in operating condition. Below are a few examples of backflow preventers.

