

LAFAYETTE PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NORTH

307 RUE SCHOLASTIQUE
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70507
OFFICE (337) 896-8683
FAX (337) 896-8625

June 13, 2019

ATTENTION ALL LPWDN CUSTOMERS

The State of Louisiana Sanitary and Plumbing Codes (LAC Title 51:XII and LAC Title 17:I), require public water systems to develop and implement cross-connection control programs. As part of our efforts to keep your drinking water safe, we are conducting a cross-connection control hazard survey of the customers served by our system. The purpose of the survey is to help us determine if any of our customers have special plumbing or activities on their premises that could increase the risk of contamination to our water system.

For most customers, the cross-connection control hazard posed to the public water system is minimal. This is because your plumbing was installed in compliance with the Louisiana Plumbing Code. The Louisiana Plumbing Code generally provides adequate protection of your water potable water piping and our public water distribution system from cross connections. However, a few customers with special plumbing or activities on their premises may pose an increased health risk to other customers served by our system. These customers may need to have a backflow preventer installed on their service lines or provide alternate protection to prevent contamination of the public water system.

Please complete the attached questionnaire by checking the applicable boxes on the table; and return the completed, signed questionnaire by **July 31, 2019** to the above address.

Additionally, to further protect the public water system, LPWDN has amended its cross connection control policy to require all residents to install a hose bib vacuum breaker on all outdoor faucets. These vacuum breakers can be obtained at most hardware or home improvement stores.

Your cooperation in this matter is essential for protecting your drinking water supply and the public water supply from contamination. **Failure to comply may trigger an enforcement action by our system. Enforcement could include a shut-off of your water service.**

Should you have any questions about the survey or how to fill out the questionnaire, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

LAFAYETTE PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NORTH

Enclosure: Water Use Questionnaire

LAFAYETTE PARISH
WATERWORKS DISTRICT NORTH
 307 RUE SCHOLASTIQUE
 LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70507
 OFFICE (337) 896-8683

Water Use Questionnaire

| CUSTOMER INFORMATION | | |
|--|---|---|
| Customer Name | | |
| Customer Phone Number | | |
| Customer email address | | |
| Service Address | | |
| Facility Type | <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | |
| STRUCTURE INFORMATION | | |
| What type of structure | <input type="checkbox"/> wood frame home <input type="checkbox"/> metal frame home <input type="checkbox"/> mobile home <input type="checkbox"/> manufactured home <input type="checkbox"/> modular home | |
| Year structure was built | | |
| ACTIVITY PRESENT ON PREMISE | | |
| Please indicate whether the special plumbing or activities listed below apply to our premise: | | |
| YES | NO | DESCRIPTION |
| | | Underground sprinkler |
| | | Solar heating system |
| | | Multiple residential dwelling / units served by master meter |
| | | Multistoried office / commercial buildings (over 3 floors) |
| | | Car wash system/facility |
| | | Meat processing plant |
| | | Mechanic Shop |
| | | Hospital / Surgical Facility / Veterinary Clinics |
| | | Funeral Homes/Mortuaries |
| | | Sewage Facility |
| | | Water treatment system (i.e., water softener) |
| | | Fire sprinkler system |
| | | Other water supply (i.e., private wells, etc., whether or not connected to plumbing system) |
| | | Sewage pumping facilities or grey water system |
| | | Hobby Farm and/or Livestock or animal watering troughs |
| | | Greenhouse |
| | | Boat dock and/or moorage with water supply |
| | | Swimming pool and/or spa and/or hot tub |
| | | Decorative pond or garden/yard fountain |
| | | Photo lab / dark room |
| | | Portable dialysis machine or equipment |
| | | Home based business: If yes, type/describe (e.g. beauty salon, machine shop, etc) |

Completed by: _____
 (Print Name)

Customer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention

What is cross-connection?

A cross-connection is any actual or potential connection between the public water supply and a source of contamination or pollution. In homes, the most common type of cross-connections include:



hoses connected at hose bibs



Boiler systems



Pool or pond auto-fill systems, or boat launches



in-ground irrigation systems



fire sprinkler systems (not "flow-through" type)

*Commercial facilities, including industrial, restaurant, and medical facilities must protect against other cross-connection hazards.

What is backflow?

Clean, safe water is designed to flow from the main into homes. In unusual instances, this *normal direction of flow is reversed*, resulting in "backflow." In a backflow situation, water that has contacted chemicals or other hazards can enter the drinking water system through cross-connections in homes or commercial buildings.

Why do I need a backflow prevention device (backflow assembly)?

If you have one of these cross connections that poses a potential hazard to the drinking water supply, state and federal law require you to install a backflow prevention device on your connected system. This ensures backflow – or potential water contamination - cannot affect the public drinking water. The law's annual test requirement makes sure the device keeps working properly.

What type of backflow device does my system need?



For irrigation and fire sprinkler systems: most residences need a double-check valve assembly (DCVA)



For boiler systems and other higher hazards: a reduced-pressure backflow assembly (RPBA) is required.

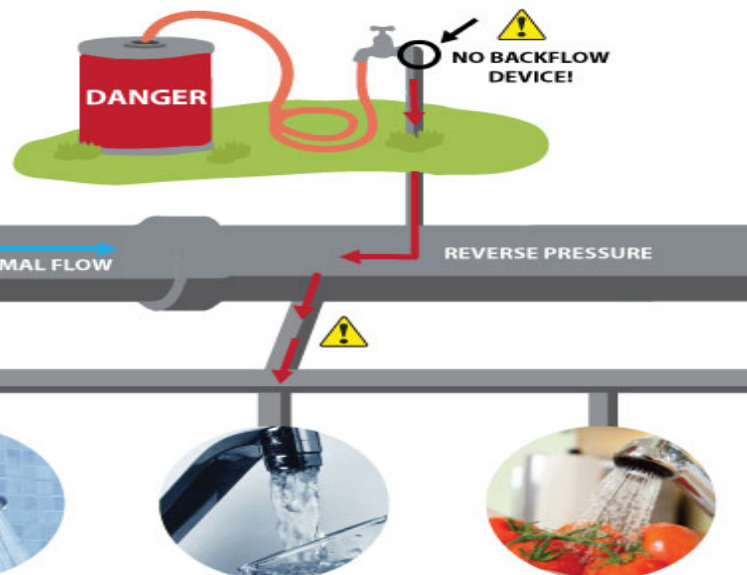


All homes should install vacuum breakers on hose connections, easy to find at hardware stores.

If you have questions about what type of backflow device to install on your property, please contact LPWDN at (337) 896-8683 or customerservice@lpwdn.com

HOW BACKFLOW CAN HAPPEN

- 1** Stage 1: Your home or business has a connection to the public water system not protected by a backflow device.
- 2** Stage 2: Water pressure is reduced because of a break in the water main or a fire event using a lot of water suddenly.
- 3** Stage 3: The sudden drop in water pressure creates a reverse pressure situation.
- 4** Stage 4: Dangerous contaminants from the unprotected connection can now potentially enter the drinking water supply.



HOW TO PREVENT BACKFLOW FROM AFFECTING YOUR HOME

Backflow can result from two types of situations: back-siphonage or back-pressure.

Back-siphonage can happen when a rapid drop in water pressure (such as a main break, or a fire incident that uses large quantities of water very quickly) creates a vacuum, which can cause a reverse flow or suction in the water lines of your home.

If a water line (such as a garden hose) is submerged in a polluted or contaminated substance when the pressure drops, that substance can be drawn into the water supply. When the pressure returns to normal, the substance will flow in the opposite direction. Without a proper backflow device preventing the opposite flow, those contaminants can be pulled into your home water lines, or even possibly your neighbors'.

To prevent cross-connections from occurring, follow these precautions:

- **Install an approved backflow prevention device on any cross-connected systems, test upon installation and annually by a state certified backflow tester.**
- **Never submerge a garden hose in a bucket, sink, or anything else.**
- **Do not use a spray attachment on your garden hose without first installing a backflow prevention assembly.**
- **Keep the end of the garden hose clean and free of contaminants.**