

WHAT IS A CROSS CONNECTION

A cross connection is any actual or potential physical connection between a potable water source and any non potable source. No water service connection to any premises shall be installed or continued in use by the purveyor unless the water supply is protected by an approved backflow assembly as required by the City of American Falls ordinance (515,1-7-1998). The installation or maintenance of a cross-connection which will endanger the water quality of the potable water supply of the City is unlawful and is prohibited.

A backflow prevention assembly shall be installed at the ties on the premises where a possible cross connection would present an immediate, or potential, dangerous hazard to the potable water supply. The purpose for a backflow assembly is to keep water that may be in a reverse flow by either back siphon or back pressure from entering the City's water system.

All backflow assemblies must be inspected ***annually***, on new installation, and when relocated. The City of American Falls strongly recommends that all citizens and/or business that have a backflow assembly on their premises have it tested by a licensed tester. One of the most common uses for a backflow assembly is a sprinkler system, if you have a sprinkler system please have it tested before you turn it on for the year.

The cross connection program for the City of American Falls is to ensure the quality of our drinking water and to protect our drinking water from being contaminated. One thing to keep in mind is that backflow assemblies not only protect the City it also protects you and your love ones. There are many different types of backflow assemblies and applications, therefore, if you need help determining if you need one (or more) or have any question or concerns please feel free to contact Pete Cortez Water/Wastewater Supt at City Hall. (226-2569)