

# BACKFLOW PREVENTION & CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL TO PROTECT OUR PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

**What is a Cross Connection?** A Cross Connection is any actual or potential connection between the public water supply and a source of contamination or pollution.

**What is Backflow?** The flow of water, other liquids, or substances into the distributing pipes of a potable (drinkable) water supply from any source other than its intended source. Backflow can be caused by backpressure and backsiphonage.

The **North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ)** has rules concerning cross connection and backflow prevention. Here is a link for NCDEQ rules and codes:

<http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ps/csu/rules>

NCAC Title 15A, Subchapter 18C pertains to Public Water Supplies. Section .0406b addresses cross-connections.

According to the **City of Asheville Cross-Connection Control Policy**, **All commercial water customers, multi-family dwellings, fire sprinkler systems and irrigation systems** will be required to install backflow prevention assemblies on their water service lines. The type of backflow prevention assembly required will be dependent upon the degree of hazard posed by the water user.

**Unapproved water sources, or wells**, also require backflow protection or complete disconnection.

**Backflow preventers must be tested** by a Certified Tester **within 30 days of installation and annually thereafter**.

More information about the City of Asheville Water Policies, Specifications, and Approved Backflow Assemblies can be found here: <http://www.ashevilenc.gov/Departments/Water>



RPDA example:  
6" Reduced Pressure  
Detector Assembly



RP example:  
3/4" Reduced Pressure  
Assembly



DC example:  
3/4" Double Check  
Assembly

*If you do not have or are unsure whether you have backflow protection on your waterline, know that you will be required to have this installed prior to receiving your Certificate of Occupancy. We will meet with you on-site to determine the location and type of assembly needed. Please contact our office at (828) 259-5977.*

