



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM**

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Excerpts from City Ordinance regarding property owner responsibilities for backflow protection:

Sec. 25-39. Cross connection control program.

(4) When required, a city-approved cross connection control device shall be installed at the property owner's expense.

When is a cross connection control device required?

(a) *Legislative intent.* It is the intent of the city council to ensure public health by protecting the potable water supplied by the city from contamination or pollution from cross connection from or within a consumer's internal distribution system by establishing a continuing program of cross connection control to systematically prevent unprotected cross connections.

(b) *Implementation of cross connection control program.* The director of public works is delegated by the city manager the responsibility for implementing and enforcing a cross connection control program in accordance with this chapter.

(c) *Hazard surveys.*

(1) The director of public works is authorized and directed to conduct surveys and inspections for purposes of identifying cross connection hazards.

(2) The right of entry to conduct hazard surveys shall be a condition of continuance of water service in order to ensure public health by protecting potable water supplied by the city.

(d) *Cross connection device required.*

(1) All construction shall conform to the cross connection control requirements in the latest version of the International Plumbing Code, the International Mechanical Code, the International Building Code, and the International Fire Code, adopted by the City of Durango.

(g) *Testing, inspection and maintenance.*

(1) Upon initial installation, after repair or replacement, and/or at least once per yearly cycle, each property owner at any home, building, facility or structure where any testable cross connection control devices are installed, must have a City of Durango certified test performed on the device(s).

(2) Any and all tests shall be at the expense of the property owner and shall be performed by a certified cross connection control technician licensed by the city.

(3) If the director of public works deems a cross connection hazard to be significant enough, a City of Durango certified test may be required more frequently than at installation and annually thereafter, and the director of public works shall give notice in writing to the property owner designating the required frequency.

- (4) The city retains the right to test and otherwise inspect the installation and operation of any cross connection control device, at any time, to assure proper operation.
- (5) Any temporary or permanent obstruction to safe and easy access to the cross connection control device to be inspected and/or sampled shall be promptly removed by the property owner at the written or oral request of the director, or his designee, and shall not be replaced. The costs of clearing such access shall be borne by the property owner.
- (6) As necessary or required, cross connection control devices shall be repaired or replaced at the expense of the property owner. Whenever a testable device is found to be defective, a replacement device must be inspected and approved by the city prior to installation.
- (h) *Compliance.*
- (1) Failure of the property owner, and/or owner's agent, to cooperate in the installation, testing, inspection and/or maintenance of cross connection control devices shall be grounds for the discontinuance of water service to the premises.
- (2) Water service to any premises may be discontinued by the city, without a requirement of prior notice, if potentially hazardous cross connections exist on the premises.
- (3) Water service to any premises may be discontinued if any defect is found in an installed cross connection control device, or if a cross connection control device has been moved, removed or bypassed.
- (4) Water service to any premises shall be discontinued if a nonhazardous cross connection is not corrected within ten (10) calendar days after notice from the City of Durango or if ordered by the State of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to correct a cross connection problem.
- (5) Service shall not be restored until such conditions or defects are corrected.
- (6) Discontinuance of service may be summary, immediate and without written notice when, in the judgment of the city, such action is necessary to protect the safety of the public potable water supply, and/or to protect the public health.

Excerpts from building codes related to lawn irrigation systems and backflow:

International Residential Code 2006

P2902.5.3 Lawn irrigation systems.

The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker or a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer. A valve shall not be installed downstream from an atmospheric vacuum breaker. Where chemicals are introduced into the system, the potable water supply shall be protected against backflow by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.

International Plumbing Code 2006

608.16.5 Connections to lawn irrigation systems.

The potable water supply to lawn irrigation systems shall be protected against backflow by an atmospheric-type vacuum breaker, a pressure-type vacuum breaker or a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer. A valve shall not be installed downstream from an atmospheric vacuum breaker. Where chemicals are introduced into the system, the potable water supply shall be protected against backflow by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.

608.16.6 Connections subject to backpressure.

Where a potable water connection is made to a nonpotable line, fixture, tank, vat, pump or other equipment subject to back-pressure, the potable water connection shall be protected by a reduced pressure principle backflow preventer.