

## Who is Responsible for Backflow Prevention?

### Distributor

The City of North Ridgeville is responsible for the protection of the city's drinking water distribution system.

### Residents and Business Owners

Customers are responsible for maintaining their plumbing systems and complying with city requirements. The city requires proper backflow prevention devices to be installed at cross connection locations and annual testing of those devices.

### Licensed Plumbers

Plumbers performing annual testing must be properly certified. Once testing is complete plumbers must submit results directly into the Backflow Solutions, Inc (BSI) portal at <https://bsionline.com>.

## Contact Us

For more information on your drinking water, contact the North Ridgeville Engineering Division at:

7307 Avon Belden Road  
North Ridgeville, OH 44039

Phone: (440) 490-2084

Web: [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org)

### Backflow Solutions, Inc (BSI)

The City uses BSI to maintain backflow prevention device testing information. Customers can find certified testing companies and more information regarding backflow at BSI's website. Testing companies must submit result through the BSI portal.

<https://bsionline.com>

Water Customer Support  
(888) 966-6050

Testing Company Support  
(800) 414-4990



## CROSS CONNECTIONS AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

City of North Ridgeville  
Engineering Division

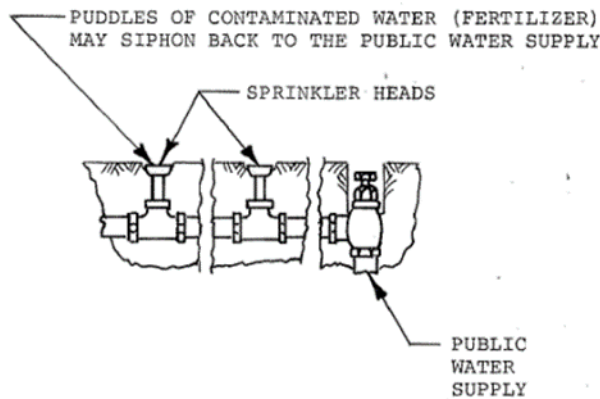
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## Key Terms

**Backflow** is the flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances into the distribution pipes of a potable water supply from any source other than the intended source.

**Cross Connection** is any pipe connection or hose connection directly attached to the city water supply system where backflow could occur.

**Backpressure** is a reversal of flow due to a cross-connection with a system that operates at a greater pressure than the public water system.



*Potential contamination source through a lawn sprinkler system*

## Local Requirements

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95 requires testing of backflow devices at least once every twelve months. The city of North Ridgeville requires a certified tester to perform the annual tests and recommends performing annual testing in the spring. Test reports are due to the city by June 15th.

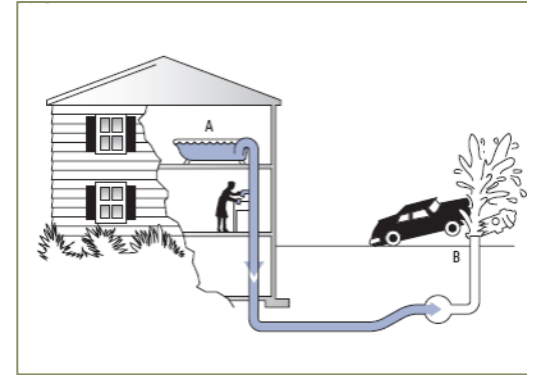
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*Water contamination can lead to poisoning, illness or death.*

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## Limiting Cross Connections

Cross connections can be capped off by a licensed plumber or certified backflow tester when appropriate. If the consumer chooses to discontinue use of the cross connection and remove the backflow prevention device, a disconnect permit must be issued and inspection made by the Building Division.



*Potential contamination sources through A) bathtub faucet submersion or B) accident creating a break in the line*

## Potential Sources of Contamination

- Submerged garden hoses
- Lawn irrigation with no backflow prevention
- Swimming pools with submerged water sources
- Fire hydrants (damaged or inappropriately used)
- Submerged sink or bathtub faucet extensions

## Why Backflow Prevention Matters

Backflow events pose potential health risks to all water system users. Common contaminants include but are not limited to:

- Pesticides
- Fertilizer
- Herbicides
- Bacteria
- Animal feces
- Other chemicals