

# Cross-Connection Control Program

## Keeping Your Water Safe



### What is a cross-connection?

It is any connection to the drinking water system that could introduce pesticides, fertilizers, used water, fluids, gases, or anything else into the water distribution system.

**Don't let it happen!**

### What causes a cross-connection?

Normally, water flows out of the distribution system under pressure. When a cross-connection exists, a drop in water pressure can cause a reversal of flow, allowing harmful substances to enter the public water system.

Water and Sewer Department  
1100 10th Street, Suite 300 • Greeley, CO 80631  
970-350-9810  
[www.greeleygov.com/backflow](http://www.greeleygov.com/backflow)



## What are common sources of cross-connection contamination?

Residential water systems: Irrigation systems, fertilizer injection systems, hoses connected to chemical spray bottles; chemicals in water beds, hot tubs, indoor/outdoor swimming pools, water features, aquariums, and swamp coolers.

Commercial/industrial systems: Cooling systems, boilers, solvents and chemicals used in manufacturing processes, liquid storage tanks, waste disposal systems, fire sprinkler systems, including applicable residential sources previously listed.

## What can water customers do to protect the public water system?

Be observant. Check for potential sources of cross-connections around your home, business, or industrial site. Never leave hoses in buckets, pools, or sinks.

If you suspect you may have a cross-connection, contact a qualified plumber who is familiar with cross-connections, hydraulics, and pollution factors.

Install backflow prevention assemblies to prevent potential cross-connections, and have a certified backflow tester inspect and test your assemblies once a year to ensure they work properly. A list of certified backflow testers is available in our office and online.

## What is Greeley doing to prevent cross-connections?

The Water and Sewer Department has a Cross-Connection Control Program, and its staff is committed to keeping your water safe and free from pollutants and harmful substances that could affect your health. Our program focuses primarily on containment and prevention.

Currently, commercial and industrial sites are being surveyed to identify potential cross-connections. Each site's water service system is being inspected for potential hazards. All commercial and industrial customers must install backflow prevention assemblies on their water service lines, fire sprinkler systems, and irrigation systems.

Residential customers should have backflow prevention assemblies on fire sprinkler systems and irrigation systems.