

**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019**



**Portland Water District**  
*FROM SEBAGO LAKE TO CASCO BAY*

## **Important Update!**

### **Cross Connection Control Program**

The Portland Water District is making important updates to its Cross Connection Control Program to further protect the public water supply from a potential contamination.

**This policy update only applies to new construction and substantial renovation.**

## **Who does this impact?**

**Effective January 1, 2019**, the updated Cross Connection Control Program extends the requirement of backflow prevention devices to:

1. New residential construction
2. Substantial renovations of buildings and internal plumbing systems
3. Fire sprinkler systems that are being upgraded

All commercial properties are still required to install and test backflow prevention devices.

**For more information on the changes and requirements, please visit us online at [www.pwd.org/Cross-connections](http://www.pwd.org/Cross-connections)**

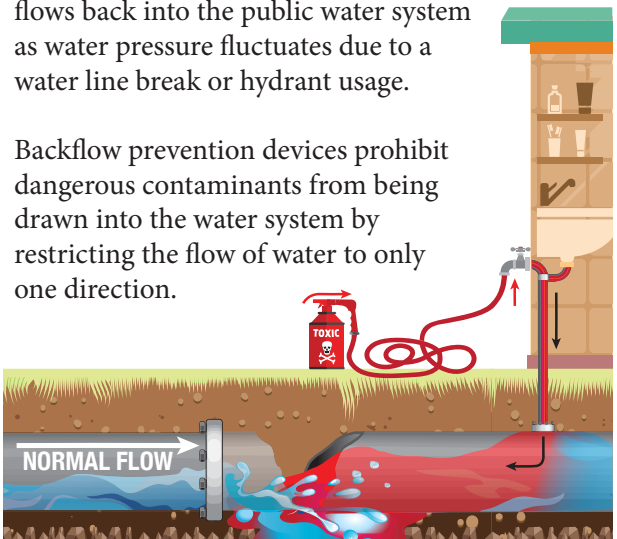
## What is a cross connection?

A cross connection is a physical connection between the drinking water system and any other piping system containing a non-potable substance. An example of a potential cross connection is a garden hose attached to an outside spigot with the end of the hose submerged in a pool or connected to a container holding a toxic chemical.

## When do backflows occur?

A backflow can occur when a substance flows back into the public water system as water pressure fluctuates due to a water line break or hydrant usage.

Backflow prevention devices prohibit dangerous contaminants from being drawn into the water system by restricting the flow of water to only one direction.



**See other side for who is impacted**



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