

## EPCOR'S CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

To support commercial businesses and multi-residential property owners, EPCOR administers a cross connection control program.

This program:

- Maintains a database of facilities, building owners and backflow prevention assemblies installed within the building along with a test history of each of those assemblies and notes from inspections.
- Maintains a database of certified testers and installers of backflow prevention assemblies.
- Ensures that equipment used by all certified installers and testers are calibrated annually.
- Conducts cross connection inspections of new and existing buildings within the City of Edmonton.
- Notifies customers of past-due annual testing requirements.

## IT'S THE LAW

By law, property owners of industrial, commercial, institutional, and multi-residential properties (four suites or more) must have the appropriate backflow preventers installed at the point where the potable water enters the building or facility, as well as any other existing cross connections on the property.

### City of Edmonton Water Service and Wastewater Treatment Bylaw #15816

- No Customer shall install or allow any Cross Connection that could cause or allow drinking water, in any part of the Waterworks System to become contaminated or polluted in any way.
- Where EPCOR Water Services Inc. (EWSI) determines that a Cross Connection prohibited by this Section exists, [notice shall be given] to the Customer to correct the prohibited Cross Connection at the expense of the Customer within the time specified in the notice.
- Where the Customer fails to correct the Cross Connection in accordance with the notice, in addition to any other penalty, EWSI may turn off the prohibited supply of water for such time as the Cross Connection continues.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

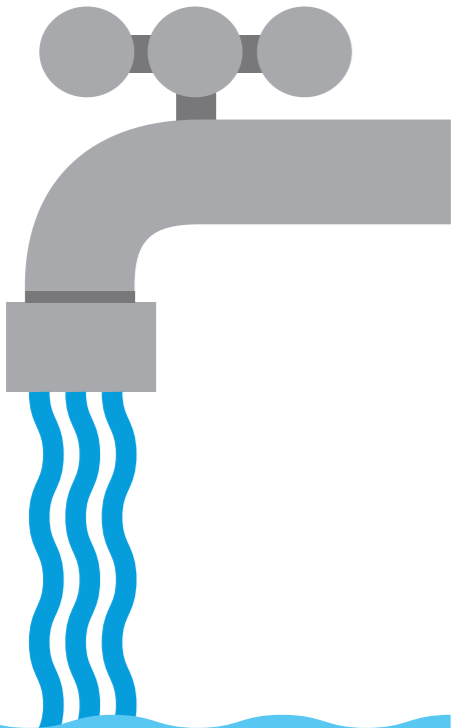
Contact our Cross Connection Control Office  
 Phone: 780.412.7840  
 Fax: 780.412.7835  
 Email: [epcorwaterccc@epcor.com](mailto:epcorwaterccc@epcor.com)

[epcor.com/crossconnection](http://epcor.com/crossconnection)

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# WHY BACKFLOW IS BAD FOR BUSINESS



## WHY IS BACKFLOW BAD FOR BUSINESS?

When backflow occurs, harmful chemicals and bacteria can pass through unprotected cross-connections and into the public water supply, creating a public health hazard.

If an unprotected or untested plumbing connection caused a public health hazard, the responsible property owners and occupants could be held liable for damages.

Common cross connections:

- Fire sprinkler systems
- Swimming pools
- Lawn irrigation and sprinkler systems
- Boiler systems
- Reclaimed water systems
- Cooling systems/Towers

## PREVENTING BACKFLOW

In order to comply with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA B64.10), the National Plumbing Code, and City of Edmonton Bylaw #15816 property owners must do the following to prevent backflow:

- Isolate your water system from the public's through the elimination of unnecessary cross connections
- Protect cross connections that cannot be eliminated with an approved Backflow Prevention Device or Assembly
- Conduct timely annual testing of backflow prevention assemblies on your property

## TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Backflow prevention assemblies must be tested:

- Upon installation (initial testing)
- When cleaned, repaired or overhauled
- When relocated
- Annually
- As required by the regulatory authority

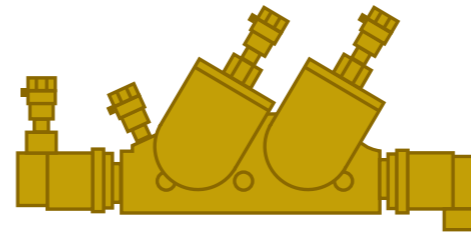
## BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES

The type of backflow preventer required is based on the degree of hazard the property presents to the potable water supply. Please check with a certified installer to see which device is required for your property.

### MODERATE HAZARD

Includes properties such as restaurants, schools, hotels, shopping malls, apartment buildings, commercial office spaces, etc.

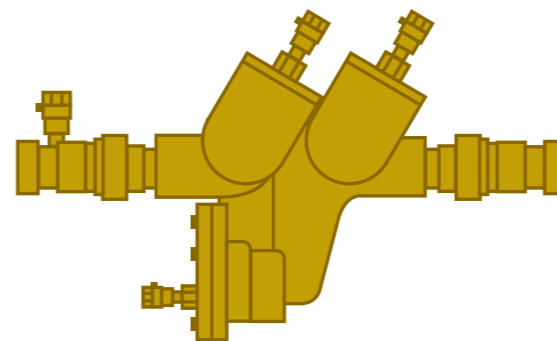
**Required backflow preventer:**  
**DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLY**



### SEVERE HAZARD

Includes properties such as hospitals, automotive shops, dry cleaners, laboratories, car washes, etc.

**Required backflow preventer:**  
**REDUCED PRESSURE PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW PREVENTER**



## INSTALLING & TESTING YOUR BACKFLOW PREVENTERS

- 1 If your property is identified as requiring a backflow preventer by EPCOR's Cross Connection Control Inspector, you will be sent a notice to have the appropriate assembly installed.  
> > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
- 2 You must contact a mechanical/plumbing contractor or fire sprinkler company for installation and initial testing. A list of companies who employ a certified tester can be found on our website at [epcor.com/crossconnection](http://epcor.com/crossconnection)
  - It is the responsibility of the contractor or plumber of your choosing to request the appropriate permits for this assembly from the City of Edmonton.  
> > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
- 3 Have the assembly installed and complete the initial test. Please note that installation may take up to a full working day during which water must be shut off.
  - It is the responsibility of the contractor or plumber to send the completed test report to EPCOR's Cross Connection Control Office within 30 days, and receive final permits from the City of Edmonton.  
> > > > > > > > > > > > > > >
- 4 Following installation, your backflow preventer must be tested yearly. For a list of certified testers please visit our website or contact our Cross Connection Control Office. Please note that annual testing takes approximately 1-2 hours during which water must be shut off.
  - It is the responsibility of the contractor or plumber to send your annual test reports to EPCOR's Cross Connection Control Office to avoid penalty.

Backflow poses a threat to our drinking water supply. Find out how EPCOR's Cross Connection Control Program can help your business minimize the risk to public health.

## WHAT IS CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL?

A cross connection is an actual or potential connection between a potable water system and any source of pollution or contamination. It is vital to protect cross connections in order to prevent backflow into potable water.