
ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



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Cross-Connection Control Programs

New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Env-Dw 505, requires that public water systems (PWSs) protect against risks associated with cross connections. Each PWS serving 1,000 or more persons must have an approved, written Cross-Connection Control Program. PWSs serving less than 1,000 must take appropriate action although a formal program is not required.

A formal program can have many elements. An example of a model Cross-Connection Control Program, which satisfies the minimum established criteria, is available through the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services' (NHDES) Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau.

Public water systems are required to know where high hazard and low hazard cross connections exist in their systems, ensuring that each is equipped with an appropriate backflow prevention device and that each device is tested routinely to confirm proper operation. Backflow prevention devices are valves installed to prevent backflow. The NHDES references the list of "Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies" for "testable" devices as published by the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research, University of Southern California. For backflow prevention devices such as residential dual check valves or other "nontestable" devices, the device would need to meet or exceed ANSI/ASSE standard 1024 "Dual Check Valve Type Backflow Preventers." The International Plumbing Code should be consulted for further information.

Approved, testable backflow prevention devices listed below shall be used for the containment of on-premise hazards for low and high degree of hazard situations respectively:

Low Degree of Hazard	High Degree of Hazard
Air gap	Air gap
Pressure vacuum breaker	Reduced pressure backflow device
Double check valve assembly	A combination of the above
Reduced pressure backflow device	
A combination of the above	

For More Information

Please contact the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau at (603) 271-2513 or dwgbinfo@des.nh.gov or visit our website at des.nh.gov.

Note: This fact sheet is accurate as of July 2019. Statutory or regulatory changes or the availability of additional information after this date may render this information inaccurate or incomplete.