

Residential Cross Connection Program



What is a Cross-Connection?

- A cross-connection is any connection, direct or indirect, between a potable (safe for drinking) water system and a non-potable water source or a source of contamination.
- This could include connections to lawn irrigation systems, swimming pools, Jacuzzis, or even a garden hose attached to an outdoor faucet.
- The risk is that contaminants from these non-potable sources could backflow into your drinking water supply, potentially causing illness or contamination.



Why is it important?

- The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act 399, Part 14A prohibits cross-connections and requires the City of Warren to implement programs to prevent them.
- These programs are designed to protect the public water supply from contamination.
- Regular inspections and testing of backflow prevention devices are crucial to ensure the safety of your drinking water.

What to Expect:

- The City of Warren has implemented a Cross-Connection Control Program where you may receive a notice by a door hanger or letter to schedule an inspection.
- Inspections are free to homeowners. City Inspectors will conduct a visual inspection of your exterior home's plumbing, looking for potential cross-connections.
- If a cross-connection is identified, you may be required to install or repair backflow prevention devices.
- Some backflow prevention devices require periodic testing by certified testers.

Backflow Prevention Devices:

- Backflow prevention devices are designed to prevent water from flowing backward into the potable water system.
- Examples of backflow devices include air gap, vacuum breakers, reduced pressure and backflow preventers.
- It's important to ensure that any backflow prevention devices on your property are properly installed and maintained.

What to Do?

- If you receive a notice for an inspection, please cooperate with the Water Division trained personnel to schedule and complete the inspection.
- If you are required to install or repair backflow prevention devices, ensure that the work is performed by a licensed plumbing contractor.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the Cross-Connection Control Program for the City of Warren or the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), please contact us in the resources listed below.

Resources:

- **City of Warren Water Department:** crossconnections@cityofwarren.org or call us at (586) 759-9200
- **Michigan EGLE:** <https://www.michigan.gov/egle> or contact at (517) 373-7500
- **ASSE Certified List of backflow device 5110 Testers**
<https://asse.iapmo.org/public/certified>