

February 23, 1996

# 41-00048

Clayton Creek Water System

Policy Concerning Cross Connection  
and Back-Flow Prevention:

This program is a cooperative effort between the State Health Office, the water system, and all water users to control cross connections.

A cross connection is an actual as well as potential physical connection which may allow potable water or supply system to come in contact with a contaminant. Some sources are hot tubs, swimming pools, and irrigation systems.

Prevention of this type of contamination is achieved by using backflow prevention devices. These devices are mechanical and are installed between the possible source of contamination and the potable water supply line.

The Oregon Administrative Rules Divide Contaminants into two groups. Those that are "hazardous to health" and those that do not "pose an unreasonable risk to health".

Determining degree of hazard is a matter of judging whether a health hazard exists. Cross connections which pose a hazard to health are considered high hazard and those which do not are considered low hazard. If the possibility of backpressure exists only a double check or RP device can be used. The chart below shows the different methods of backflow prevention and their application to degree of hazard and hydraulic conditions:

	Approved for			Approved for		
	<u>High Hazard / Low Hazard</u>			<u>Backpressure / Backsiphonage</u>		
Air Gap	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	/	Yes
AVB	No	/	Yes	No	/	Yes
PVBA	No	/	Yes	No	/	Yes
DCVA	No	/	Yes	Yes	/	Yes
RPBA	Yes	/	Yes	Yes	/	Yes

The Oregon Administrative Rules and this water system require all PVBA's, DCVA's, and RPBA's to be tested:

- Immediately upon installation;
- At least once per year;
- When they are repaired;
- When they are moved.

The Administrative Rules require all assembly tests to be performed by certified testers, certified by the State Health Division of Oregon.

Clayton Creek Water System has the right and authority to discontinue water service if a device test fails and repairs are not made, or if a homeowner fails to install a proper device.

