



Lowell Regional Water Utility
815 Pawtucket Blvd.
Lowell, MA 01854

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 LOWELL MA
 PERMIT NO 299

“There’s a lot to like about Lowell”

(2014 Water Quality Report)

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION

The Lowell Regional Water Utility makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted from the Merrimack River, throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business?

What is a cross-connection?

A cross-connection occurs whenever the drinking water supply is or could be in contact with potential sources of pollution or contamination. Cross-connections exist in piping arrangements or equipment that allowed the drinking water to come in contact with non-potable liquids, solids or gases (hazardous to humans) in event of a backflow.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This can occur when the pressure created by an equipment or system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (backpressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (back-siphonage).

What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

- NEVER submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains or chemicals.
- NEVER attached a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker in any threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Buy appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer
- Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections.
- If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial or institutional facility you must have your property’s plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection by your water purveyor. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection, contact your water department to schedule a cross-connection survey. For more information, please contact Erik Gitschier at (978) 674-1675.

Le rapport contient des informations concernant la qualité de l'eau de votre communauté. Faites-le traduire, ou parlez-en à un ami qui le comprend bien.

El informe contiene información importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

O relatório contém informações importantes sobre a qualidade da água da comunidade. Traduza-o ou peça ajuda de uma pessoa amiga para ajudá-lo a entender melhor.

“នៅក្នុងរបាយការណ៍នេះមានព័ត៌មានសំខាន់ៗណាស់ ដែលទាក់ទងអំពីគុណភាពនៃទឹកប្រើនៅក្នុងសង្គមរបស់លោកអ្នក។ សូមបកប្រែរបាយការណ៍នេះឬក៏យកទៅពិភាក្សាជាមួយនឹងមិត្តភ័ក្ត្រលោកអ្នកដែលយល់ពីរបាយការណ៍នេះបានច្បាស់លាស់។”

Η έκθεση αυτή περιέχει σημαντικές πληροφορίες σχετικά με την ποιότητα του νερού της περιοχής σας. Εάν έχετε δυσκολία να καταλάβετε το περιεχόμενό της, παρακαλείσθε όπως ζητήσετε από γνωστούς ή φίλους σας να σας την μεταφράσουν.