

## RESPONSIBILITY

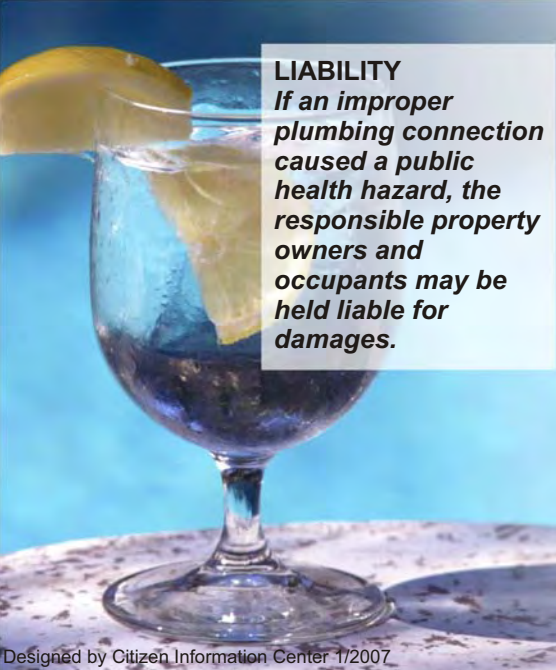
*Safeguarding Lincoln's drinking water is everyone's responsibility.*

*The State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services meets its responsibility by setting high standards for water quality and by monitoring Lincoln's water supply system. The Lincoln Water System meets its responsibility by supplying excellent drinking water that is well within the "Safe Drinking Water Act" requirements and the "License to Operate" issued by the State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.*

*Lincoln Water System Customers and occupants have a responsibility too. They must ensure that no cross connections exist on their property as stated in the Lincoln Municipal Code, Title 17 and Title 24.*

*Thank you for being a partner in safe drinking water.*

*Help protect Lincoln's drinking water.*



**LIABILITY**  
*If an improper plumbing connection caused a public health hazard, the responsible property owners and occupants may be held liable for damages.*

## DEFINITIONS

### **Water Contamination**

Improper plumbing connections on private property can contaminate the public water supply with harmful chemicals and/or bacteria.

### **Backflow**

Harmful chemicals and bacteria can pass through an unprotected cross connection when the flow within the plumbing reversed direction. This reverse flow or "backflow" can be caused by a heating system or any other system that operates at a higher pressure than the public water supply. Backflow can also be caused when a siphon is created by undersized piping or by an interruption of the water supply during plumbing or water utility repairs.

Since all water supplies are subject to backflow, they need to be protected by Lincoln Water System approved backflow prevention assemblies.

### **Backflow Prevention Assembly**

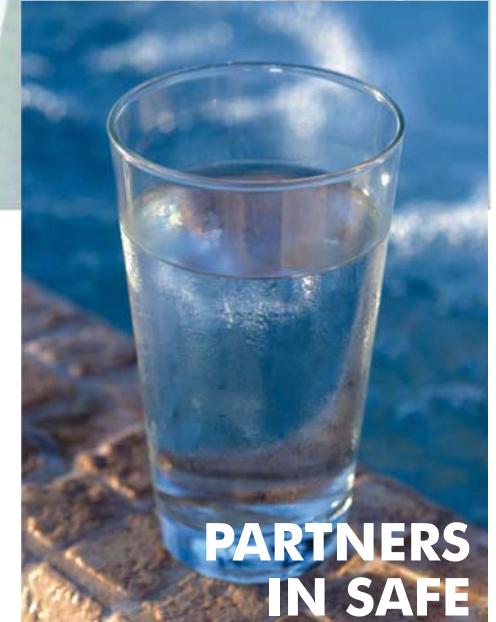
This is a device that is designed for and effective in preventing any foreign substance from the customer's premises from entering the potable water supply of the Lincoln Water System.

### **Cross Connections**

A cross-connection is defined by the Lincoln Municipal Code as "Cross-connection shall mean any actual or potential connection or structural arrangement between a public or a consumer's potable water system and any other source or system through which it is possible to introduce into the potable water supply of the Lincoln Water System any used water, industrial fluid, gas, or substance other than the intended potable water with which the system is supplied."

## LINCOLN WATER SYSTEM CROSS CONNECTION Control Program

## THE LINCOLN WATER SYSTEM AND YOU...



**PARTNERS  
IN SAFE  
DRINKING  
WATER**



402/441-5912

## TYPICAL CROSS CONNECTIONS

Cross Connections are typically made by connecting the drinking water supply directly with the following plumbing fixtures:

- wash basins and service sinks
- lawn irrigation and sprinkler systems
- laboratory equipment (i.e. medical, industrial, etc.)
- processing tanks
- industrial fluid systems and compressors
- boilers; (i.e. hydronic, steam, etc.)
- water re-circulating systems
- cooling towers, chillers and ice machines
- swimming pools
- solar heating systems
- fire sprinkler systems
- stand pipe systems
- auxiliary water supplies, private wells
- water conditioners

*(This is not an exhaustive list.)*

## CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

The purpose of the program is to safe guard the public water supply from backflow occurrences at the water service. Under the Lincoln Water System's cross connection control program, City personnel may inspect your facilities to ensure compliance with this program. A survey of your premise is required by both the State of Nebraska and the City of Lincoln. Backflow Protection is required on commercial/industrial premise connections to the water service (i.e. domestic, fire, irrigation, other, etc.)

## INFORMATION

For more information, please phone the Lincoln Water System at 402/441-5912 or email us at [backflow@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:backflow@lincoln.ne.gov).

# CROSS CONNECTION CONTROLS

## TESTABLE DEVICES

The owner/tenant must have testable backflow prevention assemblies tested upon installation and each year thereafter to ensure that they function properly. Nebraska Health & Human Services, Testing is required by the State of Nebraska Title 179, The Lincoln Plumbing Code, Title 24 and Lincoln Water Code, Title 17. The Lincoln Water System will provide a list of qualified Registered Grade 6 Water Operators upon request. The cost to test the assembly is the responsibility of the owner.



Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (R.P.Z.)



Double Check Valve Assembly (D.C.V.A.)

## FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM

Assemblies on fire sprinkler lines need to be tested by an Approved Fire Sprinkler Contractor with a Grade 6 operator's license that is also Registered with the Lincoln Water System.



Fire Sprinkler System

## NON-TESTABLE DEVICES



Approved Air Gap (A.G.)



Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker (A.V.B.)



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