

Commercial Plumbing Cross Connection Survey

Help us keep Lincoln's drinking water safe by eliminating unprotected cross connections! One way to do this is by completing the Commercial Cross Connection Plumbing Survey.

This brochure will help guide you in how to answer the questions on your Commercial Cross Connection Plumbing Survey.



Scan the QR code to complete the survey online. If you'd prefer to print the survey and mail it in, visit lincoln.ne.gov/backflow.

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 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.

DEFINITIONS

Water Contamination

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

Backflow

Harmful chemicals and bacteria can pass through an unprotected cross connection when the flow within the plumbing reverses direction. This reverse flow of "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.

Backflow Prevention Assembly

A device that is designed to prevent any foreign substances from the customer's premises from entering the potable water supply of the Lincoln Water System.

Contact Us At:

Lincoln Water System
201 North 27th Street
Lincoln, NE 68503

Not sure if you need a backflow device? Need more information on what type of backflow prevention devices you may need?

Call our office between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to speak with a Cross Connection Technician or call your local licensed plumber.

Phone: 402-441-5912
Email: backflow@lincoln.ne.gov
Website: lincoln.ne.gov/backflow

COMMERCIAL PLUMBING CROSS CONNECTIONS



LINCOLN
Transportation and Utilities

Cross Connection

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 system 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.”

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 safeguard 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.)

TESTABLE DEVICES

The owner/tenant must have testable backflow prevention assemblies tested upon installation and each year thereafter to ensure that they function properly per Nebraska Health & Human Services State of Nebraska Title 179, Lincoln Plumbing Code Title 24, and Lincoln Water Code Title 17.

The Lincoln Water System list of qualified Registered Grade 6 Water Operators can be found at lincoln.ne.gov/backflow or scan the QR Code below.



The cost to test the assembly is the responsibility of owner.

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.



NON-TESTABLE DEVICES

Approved Air Gap (A.G.)



Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker (A.V.B.)

