

# CHAPTER 26

## CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM\*

### Section 26-1. Definitions.

- (1) **Potable Water.** Water that is fit for human consumption.
- (2) **Non-Potable Water.** Water not fit for human consumption or of questionable quality.
- (3) **Cross Connection.** Any arrangement of piping where a potable water line is connected to non-potable water; it may be a pipe-to-pipe connection where potable and non-potable water lines are directly connected, or a pipe-to-water connection where the potable water outlet is submerged in non-potable water. If the potable and non-potable source are separated by gate valves, check valves or devices other than the appropriate backflow preventer as outlined by this Ordinance, a cross connection exists. By-pass arrangements, jumper connections, swivel or change over assemblies, or other temporary or permanent assemblies through which, or because of which, backflow may occur are considered to be cross connections.
- (4) **Backflow.** The reversal of normal flow direction where water flows from the intended point of delivery towards the supply.
- (5) **Backflow Preventer.** A mechanical assembly that prevents backflow. The assembly includes the shut-off valves, test cocks and backflow device.
- (6) **Back Pressure Backflow.** Backflow caused by a lower pressure in the potable supply than at the point of delivery.
- (7) **Back Siphonage Backflow.** Backflow caused by a negative pressure in the potable supply line.
- (8) **Health Hazard, (High Hazard).** Contamination with the potential to endanger the health and well-being of the consumer.
- (9) **Non-Health Hazard, (Low Hazard).** Contamination that will not endanger the health of consumer, but does not meet established water quality standards for Public Water Systems.

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\* **Editor's Note** --- Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §§ 1---9, adopted February 16, 1999, did not specify the manner of codification, but was included herein as Ch. 26, §§ 1---9, at the Editor's discretion.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §1, 2-16-99

**Section 26-2. Backflow Prevention Assembly Requirement,**

1. Elimination and Protection of Cross Connections. Cross connections occurring within the City of Laurel Water System shall be eliminated or protected with the appropriate backflow preventer. Cross connections are eliminated by establishing an air gap between the potable and non-potable sources. Cross connections are protected by installing the appropriate backflow preventer. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the cross connection to eliminate the cross connection or protect the cross connection with the appropriate backflow preventer.
2. Connections to Sewer. Direct connections, permanent or temporary, between the City of Laurel water system and a sanitary or storm sewer are prohibited.
3. Home Wells. Connection to any sources of water, other than the City of Laurel water system including home wells, is prohibited unless the appropriate backflow preventer is installed.
4. Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies. Only backflow prevention assemblies approved by the Mississippi State Department of Health shall be installed.
5. Installation Requirements. Reduced Pressure Principle Assemblies, double check valve assemblies, and pressure vacuum breakers shall be installed in a manner and location that provides adequate access for testing and repair of the assembly. Reduced pressure principle assemblies and double check valve assemblies shall not be subject to possible flooding. Reduced pressure principle assemblies and double check valve assemblies shall not be installed in a pit or enclosure below ground level.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §2, 2-16-99

**Section 26-3. Responsibility of Water System.**

1. Surveys. The City of Laurel shall develop and implement a cross connection control program and shall conduct a survey with on-site visits as necessary to locate potential cross connections within its system, before December 31, 2000.

Source: Ordinance No. 1375-2000, 10-17-00

2. Right to Entry. Each customer identified during the survey as having a potentially high-hazard cross connection shall install an approved backflow preventer within ninety (90) days of receiving such notice. Additional time may be granted for hardship, however, all high-hazard backflow devices must be

installed before June 30, 2001.

Source: Ordinance No. 1375-2000, 10-17-00

3. Classification of Hazard. Each cross connection will be classified as High Hazard or Low Hazard. The City of Laurel will follow the recommendations of the Mississippi Department of Health in defining a high hazard connection or a low hazard connection. Of the low hazard connections, those posing a very low risk shall be exempt from the requirements to have a backflow prevention device.
  - (A) For the purpose of this section, the following cross connections shall be considered low hazard cross connections posing a very low risk and therefore shall not be required to have a backflow prevention device:
    - (1) Any lawn sprinkler or lawn irrigation system that is connected to a public water system was professionally installed, regardless of whether the system is underground or above ground or whether the system has pop-up sprinkler heads;
    - (2) Any swimming pool that is connected a public water system and was professionally installed, or any swimming pool that is connected to a public water system and has a fill line with an anti-siphon air gap;
    - (3) Any water fountain or cooler that provides drinking water for human consumption, that is connected to a public water system and was professionally installed;
    - (4) Any fire sprinkler system that contains only water or a dry pipe and no chemicals, that is connected to a public water system and was professionally installed; and
    - (5) Any commercial establishment that is connected to a public water system, that contains no cross connections directly with a dangerous or hazardous substance or material.
  - (B) For the purposes of this section, any lawn sprinkler system or lawn irrigation system that is connected to a public water system and either injects or stores lawn chemicals or is connected to a wastewater supply shall be considered as high hazard cross connections and not exempt from the requirements of this section; however, the local public water system shall not be required to conduct an on-site inspection to identify any such system under this paragraph.
  - (C) Additional backflow preventer devices shall not be required for carbonated beverage dispensers if (i) the water supply connection to the carbonated beverage dispenser is protected against backflow by a backflow preventer device conforming to ASSE 1022 or by an air gap, (ii) the backflow preventer device and the piping downstream from the device are not affected by carbon dioxide gas.

Source: Ordinance No. 1375-2000, 10-17-00 amended by Ordinance No. 1397-2002, 3.03, 1-8-02

4. Selecting the Appropriate Backflow Preventer. It shall be the responsibility of the City of Laurel, acting through its agent, to determine the type of backflow preventer required at each cross connection and the location the backflow preventer will be installed. The type backflow preventer required and the location to be installed, will be selected utilizing guidelines published by the Mississippi State Department of Health.
  
5. Schedule of Installation and Testing.
  - (A) Before June 30, 2001, each property owner identified by the public water system as having a high hazard cross connection shall install a backflow preventer device. If the property owner already has a backflow preventer device installed and the backflow preventer device functions properly, the public water system shall consider the backflow preventer device approved and shall allow the installed backflow preventer device to remain in place until the backflow preventer device fails to function properly.
  - (B) Before June 30, 2004, each property owner identified by the public water system as having a low hazard cross connection shall install a backflow preventer device. This requirement does not apply to any low hazard cross connection that poses a very low risk. If the property owner already has a backflow preventer device installed and the backflow preventer device functions properly, the public water system shall consider the backflow preventer device approved and shall allow the installed backflow preventer device to remain in place until the backflow preventer device fails to function properly.
  - (C) Each backflow preventer device shall be inspected and tested immediately after installation, after repairs of any kind, and at least annually. If a high hazard backflow preventer device fails to function properly, the property owner shall have the backflow preventer device repaired and retested or shall install a new approved backflow preventer device within thirty (30) days of the initial test. If a low hazard backflow preventer device fails to function properly, the property owner shall have the backflow preventer device repaired or shall install a new backflow preventer device within ninety (90) days after the date the backflow preventer device first fails to function properly.

Source: Ordinance No. 1397-2002, 3.05, 1-8-02

6. Review of Meter Applications. The City of Laurel, acting through its agent, shall review all applications for new meters to determine if a cross connection will be created. The appropriate backflow preventer will be required at all new connections where a cross connection will be created.

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7. Inspections. The City of Laurel, acting through its agent, will periodically inspect any connection to the water system as deemed necessary to insure cross connections have not been created.
8. Record Keeping. The City of Laurel shall maintain records of the type, size and location of each backflow preventer installed in the system, when each backflow preventer is due to be tested, and the result of each test. Records shall be maintained for five (5) years from date of test and inspection.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §3, 2-16-99

**Section 26-4. Permits.**

1. Requirements. Any customer that has or will install a backflow prevention assembly shall obtain a permit from the City of Laurel. Each backflow prevention assembly shall require a separate permit. It shall be unlawful for any Customer to have a backflow prevention assembly connected to the City of Laurel Water System without a current and valid permit.
2. Permit Fee. The customer shall pay for each permit, a fee of One Hundred and No/100 Dollars (\$100.00).
3. Expiration of Permit. Each permit issued for a backflow prevention assembly shall remain valid as long as the backflow prevention assembly remains in use as originally installed. The permit shall become void if the assembly is moved, the application changes, the customer's water account is closed, or any other reason determined to be reasonable and necessary by the City of Laurel.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §4, 2-16-99

**Section 26-5. Testing.**

1. Tests Required. Each reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly, double check valve assembly, and pressure vacuum breaker shall be tested immediately after installation, after repairs of any kind, and annually. Any backflow preventer found to be non-functional shall be repaired and re-tested within fourteen (14) days of the initial test.
2. Certified Testers. Only backflow preventer testers certified by the Mississippi State Department of Health shall test backflow preventers located in the City of Laurel.
3. Notification. The City of Laurel will notify the owner of each backflow preventer sixty (60) days prior to the due date that the backflow preventer is due to be tested.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §5, 2-16-99

**Section 26-6. Violations and Penalties.**

1. Refusal of Inspection. If the owner of a connection refuses to let the Agent of the City of Laurel inspect that connection to determine if a cross connection exists, a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly will be required at that connection.
2. Maintaining a Cross Connection. If the owner of a connection, after having been informed that a cross connection exists at the connection, refuses to comply with this Ordinance, water service to the connection shall be terminated until such time as all requirements have been met.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §6, 2-16-99

**Section 26-7. Severability.**

If any section, clause, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, or unenforceable by a Court of law or equity, such invalid provision shall be stricken, and shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance not invalidated nor render the remaining portions of this Ordinance invalid.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §7, 2-16-99

**Section 26-8. Repealer.**

Any other Ordinances, Orders, Resolutions, or portions thereof, in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby declared repealed and held invalid.

Any regulations adopted before the effective date of House Bill No. 692, 2001 Regular Session, or as included in the City of Laurel Ordinance No. 1332-1999, that are in conflict with House Bill No. 692 are hereby declared repealed and held invalid.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §8, 2-16-99; Ordinance No. 1392-2002, §8, 1-8-02

**Section 26-9. Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days from and after passage.

Source: Ordinance No. 1332-1999, §9, 2-16-99

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