



# Western Slope Fire & Safety, Inc.



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## BACKFLOW 101-CROSS CONNECTION

Do you have.....

An Irrigation System?      Fire Suppression System?      Food Services?  
Provide Medical Services?      Hazardous Materials?

\*If you are unsure please contact your local water purveyor and they can provide a site survey.

### What is a Cross Connection....

A physical connection between the potable water supply and any material that renders the supply non-potable. The cross connection is created by backpressure or backsiphonage. **Backpressure** is the reversal of normal flow due to downstream pressure being greater than supply pressure. **Backsiphonage** is the reverse flow of water due to negative pressure. This can occur when there is a sudden drop in water pressure in the water main.

### What can cause a Cross Connection....

- Putting a hose down a drain to flush out debris
- Connecting your garden hose to a plant fertilizer applicator
- Filling up your hot tub with a garden hose

### How do You prevent a Cross Connection....

A Backflow Preventer! This is a testable device which uses spring loaded check valves to prevent polluted or contaminated water from flowing back into the water supply.

### Backflow testing requirements....

- Mandated by the state of Colorado...Regulation 11 - Section 11.39 of the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations
- Must have appropriate backflow installed per application
- Must pass annual inspection by a licensed certified tester

If you have any further questions regarding the Backflow regulations please contact your local water purveyor and to schedule an inspection please contact Western Slope Fire.