

Types of Backflow Prevention Devices Required

Subject to the provisions of the NH *Backflow Prevention Rule* Env-Dw 505 and the HVWP *Cross-Connection Control Program*, cross-connections shall be classified by degree of hazard by HVWP and Table 505-1 shall serve as the guide for the type of protection required. Types of hazards include:

“Low degree of hazard” means that if backflow were to occur, the resulting effect on the potable water supply would be a change in its aesthetic qualities only and the unwanted substance is non-toxic to humans.

“High degree of hazard” means that if a backflow were to occur, the resulting effect on the potable water supply could cause illness or death if the water thus contaminated were consumed by humans. The unwanted substance may be toxic to humans either from a chemical, bacteriological, or radiological standpoint. The effects of the contaminants can result from short or long-term exposure.

From Env-Dw 505.08, Approved Backflow Prevention Devices:

(a) Only approved backflow prevention devices shall be used.

(b) Only the types of backflow prevention devices listed in Table 505-1 below shall be used for the containment of on-premise hazards for low and high degree of hazard situations respectively:

Table 505-1: Acceptable Backflow Prevention Devices for Degrees of Hazards

<u>Low Degree of Hazard</u>	<u>High Degree of Hazard</u>
Air gap Pressure vacuum breaker Double check valve assembly Reduced pressure backflow device A combination of the above	Air gap Reduced pressure backflow device A combination of the above

(c) A backflow prevention device shall not be installed in a location where it will:

- (1) Be subject to corrosive fumes, grit, or sticky or abrasive liquids;
- (2) Be subject to flooding or mechanical abuse;
- (3) Not be easily accessible for testing and repair;
- (4) Be in a pit or built into or close to walls or other obstructions; or
- (5) Be in a vertical position unless the backflow prevention device was certified for that orientation.

Owner’s Responsibilities

From Env-Dw 505.04, Responsibilities of Department, Suppliers, Owners, and Inspectors:

(e) Relative to cross-connections, the customer or property owner shall:

- (1) Eliminate and disconnect any cross-connections that are maintained between the private system and the supplier’s system, unless deemed necessary by the supplier and protected by an approved backflow prevention device suitable for the degree of hazard associated with the cross-connection;
- (2) Have any backflow prevention device properly installed, operated and maintained;
- (3) Comply with all provisions of any cross-connection permit and the supplier’s cross-connection program;
- (4) Apply for renewal of the cross-connection permit when required by the supplier;
- (5) Protect the owner’s water distribution or plumbing system by the installation of approved backflow prevention devices where appropriate and necessary; and
- (6) Have inspections and tests performed during regular business hours.