

SPOKANE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #3

CROSS CONNECTION REGULATIONS

Pursuant to Chapter 248-54, Public Water Systems Rules & Regulations of Washington State Board of Health, it is the responsibility of Spokane County Water District #3 to protect its drinking water from contamination due to cross connections. Therefore, the following regulations are hereby adopted:

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1:01 DEFINITIONS

(1) "Cross Connection" means any physical arrangement where a public water system is connected, directly or indirectly, with any other non-drinkable water system or auxiliary system, sewer, drain conduit, swimming pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, swamp coolers, or any other device which contains, or may contain, contaminated water, sewage, or other liquid of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the public water system as a result of backflow. Bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or change over devices, or other temporary or permanent devices through which, or because of which, backflow may occur are considered to be cross connections.

(2) "Backflow" means the flow in the direction opposite to the normal flow or the introduction of any foreign liquids, gases, or substances into the water system of Spokane County Water District #3.

(3) "Auxiliary supply" means any water source or system other than the public water system, that may be available in the building or on the premises.

(4) "Approved backflow prevention device" means a device to counteract back pressures or prevent back siphonage. This device must appear on the list of approved devices issued by the Washington State Health Division.

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(5) "Reduced pressure principle device" shall mean an assembly containing two independently acting approved check valves together with a hydraulically-operated, mechanically independent pressure differential relief valve located between the check valves and at the same time below the first check valve. The device shall include properly located test cocks and tightly closing shut off valves at the end of the assembly. A check valve is approved if it appears on the list of approved devices issued by the Washington State Health Division.

(6) "Premises" means any piece of land to which water is provided including all structures, improvements, mobile home(s) and structure located on it.

### 1:02 PURPOSE

The purpose of these regulations is to protect the water supply of Spokane County Water District #3 from contamination or pollution due to any existing or potential cross connections.

### 1:03 CROSS CONNECTIONS REGULATED

No cross connections shall be created, installed, used or maintained within the territory served by Spokane County Water District #3, except in accordance with these regulations.

### 1:04 BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE REQUIREMENT

Approved backflow prevention devices shall be installed at the expense of the user, either at the service connection or within the premises, as determined by a certified cross connection inspector employed by Spokane County Water District #3 in each of the following circumstances:

- (1) If the nature and extent of any activity of the premises, or the materials used in connection with any activity of the premises, or materials stored on the premises, could contaminate or pollute the drinking water supply.
- (2) On premises having any one or more cross connections as that term is defined in section 1:01 paragraph 1.
- (3) Internal cross connections that are not correctable, or intricate plumbing arrangements which make it impractical to ascertain whether or not cross connections exist.
- (4) A repeated history of cross connections being established or re-established.

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- (5) Unduly restricted entry so that inspections for cross connections cannot be made with sufficient frequency or with sufficient notice to assure that cross connections do not exist.
- (6) Materials of a toxic or hazardous nature being used such that, if back siphonage should occur, a health hazard could result.
- (7) Any mobile apparatus which uses Spokane County Water District #3 system or water from any premises with the Spokane County Water District #3 system.
- (8) On any premise where installation of an approved backflow prevention device is deemed to be necessary to accomplish the purpose of these regulations in the judgement of a certified cross connection specialist employed by Spokane County Water District #3.
- (9) On any premise where an appropriate cross connection report form has not be filed with the office of Spokane County Water District #3.

1:05 INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

To ensure proper operation and accessibility of all backflow prevention devices, the following requirements shall apply to the installation of these devices.

- (1) No part of the backflow prevention device shall be submerged in water or installed in a location subject to flooding. If installed in a vault or basement, adequate drainage shall be provided.
- (2) Devices must be installed at the point of delivery of the water supply, before any branch in the line, on private property located just inside of the property line. Alternate locations must be approved in writing by Spokane County Water District #3 prior to installations.
- (3) The device must be protected from freezing and other severe weather conditions.
- (4) All backflow prevention device assemblies shall be of a type and model approved by the Washington State Department of Health and Spokane County Water District #3.
- (5) Only devices specifically approved by the Washington Health Division for vertical installation may be installed vertically.
- (6) The device shall be readily accessible with adequate room for maintenance and testing. Devices 2" and smaller shall have at least 6" clearance on all sides of the device. All Devices larger than 2" shall have a minimum clearance of 12" on the back side, 24" on the test cock side, 12" below the device and 36" above the device.

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- (7) The property owner assumes all responsibility for all maintenance and annual testing of the device.
- (8) If written permission is granted to install the backflow device inside of the building the device shall be readily accessible during regular working hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- (9) If a device, with written permission, is installed inside of the premises and is 4" or larger and is installed 4' above the floor, it must be equipped with a rigidly and permanently installed scaffolding acceptable to Spokane County Water District #3.
- (10) RP devices may be installed in a vault only if relief valve discharge can be drained to daylight through a "boresight" type drain. The drain shall be of adequate capacity to carry the full rated flow of the device and shall be screened on both ends.
- (11) An approved air gap shall be located at the relief valve orifice. This air gap shall be at least twice the inside diameter of the incoming supply line as measured vertically above the top rim of the drain and in no case less than 1".
- (12) Upon completion of installation, Spokane County Water District #3 shall be notified and all devices must be inspected and tested. All backflow devices must be registered with Spokane County Water District #3. Registration shall consist of date of installation, make model, serial number of the backflow device, and initial test report.
- (13) All new construction shall install an approved backflow device at the service connection.

1:06 ACCESS TO PREMISES

Authorized employees of Spokane County Water District #3 with proper identification, shall have access during reasonable hours to all parts of a premise and within the building to which water is supplied. However, if any water user refuses access to a premise or to the interior of a structure at reasonable times and on reasonable notice for inspection by a cross connection specialist appointed by Spokane County Water District #3, a reduced pressure principle device will be required to be installed at the service connection to that premise.

1:07 ANNUAL TESTING AND REPAIRS

All backflow devices installed within the territory served by Spokane County Water District #3 shall be tested immediately upon installation

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and annually thereafter by a state certified tester. All such devices found not functioning properly shall be promptly repaired or replaced by the water user. If any such device is not promptly repaired or replaced, Spokane County Water District #3 may deny or discontinue water to the premise. All testing and repairs are the financial responsibility of the water user.

1:08 VARIANCES

Any variances from these requirements shall be requested in writing by the owner and approved by Spokane County Water District #3 prior to device installation.

1:09 COSTS OF COMPLIANCE

All costs associated with purchase, installation, inspections, testing, replacement, maintenance, parts, and repairs of the backflow device are the financial responsibility of the water user.

1:10 TERMINATION OF SERVICE

Failure on the part of any customer to discontinue the use of all cross connections and to physically separate cross connections is sufficient cause for the immediate discontinuance of public water service to the premises. (WAC 246-290-490)

"The purveyor shall deny or discontinue water service to any customer failing to cooperate in the installation, maintenance, testing, or inspection of backflow prevention assemblies required by the regulations of this chapter."

1:11 EFFECTIVE DATE

These regulations shall be effective as of October 20, 1992.

RESOLUTION NO. 92\_\_\_\_06\_\_\_\_



A Resolution of the Board of Water Commissioners of the Spokane County Water District No. 3.

Be it resolved by The Board of Water Commissioners of Spokane County Water District No. 3 as follows:

To approve and accept Cross Connection Regulations as attached.

Adopted by the Board of Water Commissioners of Spokane County Water District No. 3 at a meeting held on the 20th day of October 1992.

Spokane County Water District No. 3

  
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