

## Compliance is mandatory

City of San Luis is working on implementing the Backflow Prevention plan for all commercial water services. This is under the Safe Drinking Water Act Public Law 99-339 Amendment of 1986, The State of AZ R18-4-115 and also adopted by the City of San Luis Ordinance No. 125 in 1995.

## A clean water supply is OUR responsibility

City of San Luis Water Department is responsible for protecting the public water and sewer supply, which begins at the source, includes the entire water distribution system and service connections, and ends at the point of delivery to the consumer. City of San Luis requires backflow prevention devices for containment of pollution sources.

City of San Luis Water Department is responsible for regulating the protection of the consumer's water system, which begins at the point of delivery from the supplier and includes all piping installations inside the consumer's premises. Backflow devices required are for isolation of pollution sources within the building.

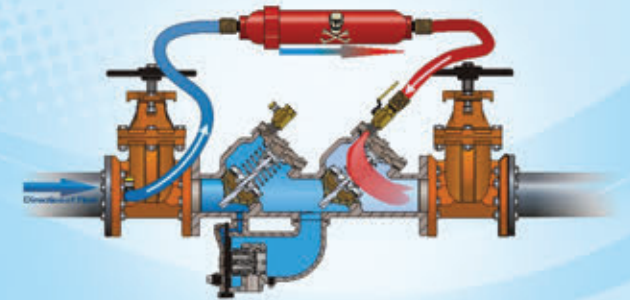
## Compliance is YOURS

Customers are responsible for providing backflow prevention devices and having them inspected, tested, and repaired. Tests are required at the time of installation and at least every twelve (12) months thereafter. Inspections, tests, and repairs of backflow devices are at the expense of the water customer, and must be performed by a certified tester.



# BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM

Important information for  
**Commercial,  
Industrial,  
Institutional  
& Multi-Residential Property Owners**



City of San Luis  
Department of Public Works

Need additional information about backflow prevention, contact:

### Department of Public Works

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Forms can be found at: [cityofsanluis.org](http://cityofsanluis.org)  
(search for Public Works/Water Division)  
or at the Public Works Office  
1090 E. Union St.  
PO Box 3750  
San Luis, AZ 85349



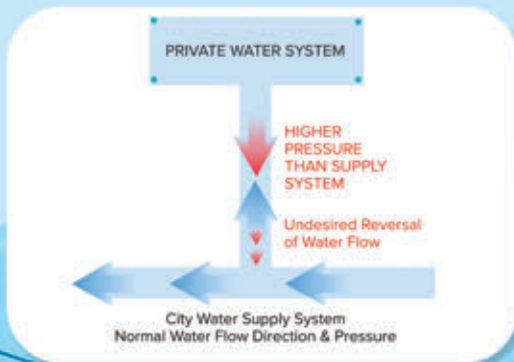
## What is backflow?

Backflow is any reversal of flow within a piping system. City of San Luis Water and Wastewater Department maintains the high quality of our water until it enters a customer's piping system. After water enters a customer's premises, our Water Department cannot control its quality or use. Allowing water to flow backward from a customer's piping into the distribution system could endanger the public water supply.

## What causes backflow?

Backflow can be caused by two different force, backsiphonage and backpressure.

Backsiphonage occurs when there is a sudden reduction in water pressure within the distribution system. This can occur when a water main breaks or when a car strikes a fire hydrant. The sudden pressure drop creates suction that can siphon water from your pipes, and anything connected to them, back into the distribution system. Backpressure can cause backflow when the water pressure inside a boiler or other equipment connected to a customer's piping system becomes higher than the pressure in the distribution system. Some types of pressurized equipment contain soap, acid, anti-freeze, or other undesirable substances.



## What is cross-connection?

A cross-connection is any temporary or permanent connection between portable water and any other substance. A temporary cross-connection could be a hose connected to a faucet, with its other end submerged in the contents of a utility sink, swimming pool, car radiator, or industrial cooling system. It could be a garden hose connected to an insecticide dispenser. Cross-connections can defeat your plumbing system's built-in backflow prevention principles, allowing harmful substances to backflow into your water pipes.

## How can backflow be prevented?

We can prevent backflow by eliminating cross-connections and using backflow prevention devices. Household devices are available for use with hoses. Industrial, commercial, and multi-family applications required devices such as:

- Air Gap Separation
  - Double Check Valve
  - Reduced Pressure Double Check Valve
- The type of protection required is based on the potential for backflow and the degree of hazard to the public water supply.

## Where is protection required?

City of San Luis requires a reduced pressure backflow prevention assembly to be installed on each water line entering a commercial building, industrial facility, or multi-family residential building of more than three units. Reduced pressure devices must be installed inside a building unless they are protected from cold temperatures and freezing by installation of a hot box. They cannot be installed in pits or below grade level. We also require fire lines to have backflow prevention assembly.

### Testable Backflow Preventers



Newly Installed 4-Inch Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Preventer



Reduced Pressure Backflow Device



Double Check Valve Device