



Cross-connection Control Guidance Summary of Water System Responsibilities

Introduction

The Cross-Connection Control (CCC) regulations, 16 Del. C. § 4462, State of Delaware, *Regulations Governing Public Drinking Water Systems*, § 21.0, took effect on February 1, 2021. All public water systems (PWS) are governed by the CCC regulations and must comply with the regulations by February 1, 2024.

Development of a Cross-Connection Control Program

Each PWS must develop a CCC program (21.2.1)* that includes the following:

- A **responsible individual** designated by the PWS. The individual must be appropriately trained and experienced in CCC (21.2.1).
- An **inventory** of all backflow prevention assemblies and backflow elimination methods (21.2.2).
- **Records of testing, repairs, and maintenance** of all backflow prevention assemblies (21.2.2). The results of testing, repairs, and maintenance of backflow prevention assemblies shall be retained by the PWS for no less than 10 years (21.4.1).
- **Records of public education.** A PWS may implement a public education program in lieu of assessments and installation of backflow prevention assemblies for those customers whose premises are deemed a low hazard (21.2.5). The public education program must include (21.2.5.1):
 - causes and dangers of backflow and cross-connections, including health effects;
 - information on how to identify actual and potential cross-connections;
 - preventive measures to reduce or eliminate cross-connection and backflow risks; and
 - information on reporting suspected cross-connections to the public water system.
- **Policies to complete an assessment** of each customer's premise for potential cross-connections. The policies must establish hazard criteria to classify customers' premises degree of hazard (high or low). In addition, the PWS must determine the adequacy of existing preventative measures (21.2.3).
- **Installation** of approved backflow prevention assemblies or elimination methods at premises having an auxiliary water system and premises deemed a high hazard (21.2.4). A PWS must prevent backflow into the distribution system (21.1.1) and may exercise judgement when determining the need for backflow prevention measures at each premise (21.2.4).
- **Approved** backflow corrections and devices must conform to the standards of the American Society of Sanitary Engineering, the American Water Works Association, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (21.3).
- Acceptable water pressure (not less than 25 pounds per square inch) must be maintained throughout the PWS to reduce backflow (21.1.3).
- The PWS may discontinue service to a consumer due to a cross-connection or a backflow incident until the correction of the deficiency (21.1.4).

*Numerical references in parenthesis refer to subsections within 16 Del. C. § 4462, State of Delaware, *Regulations Governing Public Drinking Water Systems*.