

CROSS-CONNECTION & BACK-FLOW PREVENTION CONTROL POLICY

The Clay-Roane Public Service District recognizes that Cross-Connection and Back-flow Conditions either existing or potential in a public water system and /or a customer's water distribution system pose a threat to the public health and the environment. Therefore, the following program and articles of policy apply to our public water system and to our customer's water distribution system.

I. Purpose

To protect the public potable water supply served by Clay-Roane Public Service District from the possibility of contamination or pollution by isolating, within its customers internal distribution system, such contaminants or pollutants which could backflow or back-siphon into the public water system.

To promote the elimination or control of existing cross-connections, actual or potential, between its customers' in-plant potable water system, and non-potable systems.

To provide for the maintenance of a continuing program of cross-connection control which will effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of all potable water systems by cross-connection.

II. Authority

By the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, and the Code of West Virginia Chapter 16, Article I and Public Health Laws, WV Bureau for Public Health Chapter I, Article 5B, the water purveyor has the primary responsibility for preventing water from unapproved sources, or any other substances, from entering the public potable water system.

Clay-Roane Public Service District, Rules, and Regulations, adopted.

III. Responsibility

The Clay-Roane PSD shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to the backflow or back-siphonage of contaminants or pollutants through the water service connection. If, in the judgment of the Clay-Roane PSD, an approved backflow device is required at the water service connection to any customer's premises, the Clay-Roane PSD, or his delegated agent, shall give notice in writing to said customer to install an approved backflow prevention device at each service connection to his premises. The customer shall, within 90 days, install such approved device, or devices, at his own expense, and failure or refusal, or inability on the part of the customer to install said device or devices within ninety (90) days, shall constitute a ground for discontinuing water service to the premises until such device or devices have been properly installed.

IV. Administration

The Clay-Roane PSD will operate a cross-connection control program, to include the keeping of necessary records, which fulfills the requirements of the WVBPH Cross-Connections and Backflow Prevention Regulations.

The Owner shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and shall follow the provisions of the Water Purveyor's program and the WVBPH Regulations if a cross connection is permitted.

If the Clay-Roane PSD requires that the public supply be protected by containment, the Owner shall be responsible for water quality beyond the outlet end of the containment device and should utilize fixture outlet protection for that purpose. He may utilize local public health officials, or personnel from the Clay-Roane PSD, or their designated representatives, to assist him in the survey of his facilities and to assist him in the selection of proper fixture outlet devices, and the proper installation of these devices.

V. Requirements

Clay-Roane PSD

- On new installations, the Clay-Roane PSD will provide on-site evaluation and/or inspection of plans in order to determine the type of backflow preventer, if any, that will be required and will perform inspection and testing.
- For premises existing prior to the start of this program, the Clay-Roane PSD will perform evaluations and inspections of plans and/or premises and inform the owner by letter of any corrective action deemed necessary, the method of achieving the correction, and the time allowed for the correction to be made. Ordinarily, ninety (90) days will be allowed. However, this time period may be shortened depending upon the degree of hazard involved and the history of the device(s) in questions.
- The Clay-Roane PSD will not allow any cross-connection to remain unless it is protected by an approved backflow preventer which will be regularly tested to ensure satisfactory operation.
- The Clay-Roane PSD shall inform the Owner by letter of any failure to comply, by the time of the first re-inspection. The Clay-Roane PSD will allow an additional fifteen (15) days for the correction. In the event the Owner fails to comply with the necessary correction by the time of the second re-inspection, the Clay-Roane PSD will inform the Owner by letter, that the water service to the Owner's premises will be terminated within a period not to exceed five (5) days. In the event that the Owner informs the Water Purveyor of extenuating circumstances as to why the correction has not been made, a time extension may be granted by the Water Purveyor, but in no case will exceed an additional thirty (30) days.
- If the Clay-Roane PSD determines at any time that a serious threat to public health exists, the water service will be terminated immediately.
- The Clay-Roane PSD will begin initial premise inspections to determine the nature of existing or potential hazards. Initial focus will be on high hazard industries and commercial premises.

Owner

- The Owner shall be responsible for the elimination or protection of all cross-connections on the premises.
- The Owner, after having been informed by a letter from the Clay-Roane PSD, shall at his expense install, maintain, and test, or have tested, any and all backflow preventers on his premises.
- The Owner shall correct any malfunction of the backflow preventer which is revealed by periodic testing.
- The Owner shall inform the Clay-Roane PSD of any proposed or modified cross-connections and also any existing cross-connections of which the Owner is aware but have not been found by the Clay-Roane PSD.
- The Owner shall not install a bypass around any backflow preventer unless there is a backflow preventer of the same type on the bypass. Owners who cannot shut down operation for testing of the device(s) must supply additional devices necessary to allow testing to take place.
- The Owner shall install backflow preventers in a manner approved by the Clay-Roane PSD.
- The Owner shall install only backflow preventers approved by the Clay-Roane PSD or the WVBPH.
- Any Owner having a private well or other private water source must have the approval of the Clay-Roane PSD and the WVBPH if the well or source is cross-connected to the Clay-Roane PSD's system. Permission to cross-connect may be denied. The Owner may be required to install a backflow preventer at the service entrance if a private water source is maintained, even if it is not cross-connected to the Clay-Roane PSD's system.
- In the event the Owner installs plumbing to provide potable water for domestic purposes which is on the Clay-Roane PSD's side of the backflow preventer, such plumbing must have its own backflow preventer installed.
- The Owner shall be responsible for the payment of all fees for permits, annual or semi-annual device testing, retesting in the case that the device fails to operate correctly, and second re-inspections for non-compliance with Clay-Roane PSD or WVBPH requirements.
- The Owner must maintain, for a minimum of three (3) years, records of installation and removal, all testing, repair, and maintenance for all assemblies/devices in the Owner's water distribution system(s).
- The Owner will report any back-flow incident(s) occurring in their facility(s)/building(s) as soon as possible, but not later than twenty-four (24) hours after the incident to the Water Purveyor and to the WVBPH. Also, the Owner must maintain, for a minimum of three (3) years, all records and reports of all back-flow incidents occurring in their facility(s)/building(s). These records and reports are to be made available to the Water Purveyor and/or WVBPH upon request.

VI. Degree of Hazard

The Clay-Roane PSD recognizes the threat to the public water system arising from cross-connections. All threats will be classified by degree of hazard and will require the installation of approved backflow prevention device.

VII. Existing In-Use Backflow Prevention Devices

Any existing backflow preventer shall be allowed by the Clay-Roane PSD to continue in service unless the degree of hazard is such as to supersede the effectiveness of the present backflow preventer or result in an unreasonable risk to the public health. Where the degree of hazard has increased, as in the case of a residential installation converting to a business establishment, any existing backflow preventer must be upgraded to a reduced pressure principal device, or a reduced pressure principal device must be installed in the event that no backflow device is present.

VIII. Periodic Testing

- Backflow prevention devices shall be tested and inspected at least annually.
- Periodic testing shall be performed by a WVBPB certified tester. This testing will be done at the owner's expense.
- Any backflow preventer which fails during a periodic test will be repaired or replaced. When repairs are necessary, upon completion of the repair the device will be retested at the owner's expense to ensure correct operation. High hazard situations will not be allowed to continue unprotected if the backflow preventer fails the test and cannot be repaired immediately. In other situations, a compliance date of not more than thirty (30) days after the test date will be established. The owner is responsible for spare parts, repair tools, or a replacement device. Parallel installation of two (2) devices is an effective means of the owner ensuring that uninterrupted water service during testing or repair of devices and is strongly recommended when the owner desires such continuity.
- Backflow prevention devices will be tested more frequently than specified in A. above, in cases where there is a history of test failures and the Clay-Roane PSD feels that due to the degree of hazard involved, additional testing is warranted. The owner will pay the cost of the additional tests.

IX. Records

Clay Roane PSD will initiate and maintain/update the following:

- Master files on customer evaluations and/or inspections of cross-connections and backflow conditions.
- Master files on all customer back-flow prevention assemblies.
- Master files on customer back-flow prevention tests, repairs, and replacements. Records for replaced back-flow prevention devices shall be maintained for a period of one (1) year after the date of removal from service.
- Records and reports of any back-flow incident(s) occurring in the public or consumer water systems shall be maintained for at least three (3) years after the date of the incident.
- Copies of any of the above and other records and/or reports supplied to the WVBPB. This material shall be maintained for at least three (3) years after submission.

Upon request, Clay Roane PSD will submit records of inspection and non-compliance, surveys, test results and/or corrective actions, and back-flow reports to the West Virginia Bureau of Public Health.