

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

As required by the Mississippi Safe Drinking Water Act and the regulations of the Mississippi State Department of Health, this cross connection policy EBBA has been officially adopted by the officials/owners of the Jackson County School District to protect the drinking water from possible contamination.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

1. Water System: Whenever this term is used in this document, it shall mean the Jackson County School District.
2. Potable water: Water that is acceptable for human consumption.
3. Non-Potable Water: Water not acceptable for human consumption or of unknown quality.
4. Cross Connection: Any arrangement of piping where a potable water line is connected to non-potable water; it may be a pipe-to-pipe connection where potable and non-potable water lines are directly connected, or a pipe-to-water connection where the potable water outlet is submerged in non-potable water. If the potable and non-potable sources are separated by gate valves, check valves or devices other than the appropriate backflow preventer as outlined by this policy, a cross connection exists. By-pass arrangements, jumper connection, swivel or change over assemblies, or other temporary or permanent assemblies through which, or because of which, backflow may occur are considered to be cross connection.
5. Backflow: The reversal of normal flow direction where water flows from the intended point of delivery towards the supply.
6. Back Pressure Backflow: Backflow caused by a lower pressure in the potable supply than at the point of delivery.
7. Back Siphonage Backflow: Backflow caused by a negative pressure in the possible supply line.
8. Health Hazard (High Hazard): Contamination with the potential to endanger the health and well-being of the consumer.
9. Non-Health Hazard (Low Hazard): Contamination that will not endanger the health of the consumer, but does not meet established water quality standards for public water systems.

SECTION 3: BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLY REQUIREMENT

- 3.01 Elimination and Protection of Cross Connection. Cross connections occurring within the Water System shall be eliminated or protected with the appropriate backflow preventer. Cross connections are eliminated by establishing an air gap between the potable and non-potable sources. Cross connections are protected by installing the appropriate backflow preventer. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the cross connection to eliminate the cross connection or protect the cross connection with a backflow preventer approved by the Water System.
- 3.02 Connections to Sewer. Direct connections, permanent or temporary, between the Water System and a sanitary or storm sewer are prohibited.
- 3.03 Home Wells. Connection to any source of water other than that provided by the Water System, including home wells, is prohibited unless a backflow preventer approved by the Water System is installed.
- 3.04 Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies. Only backflow prevention assemblies approved by the Mississippi State Department of Health shall be installed on this Water System to comply with this policy.
- 3.05 Installation Requirements. Reduced pressure principle assemblies, double check valve assemblies, and pressure vacuum breaker shall be installed in a manner and location that provides adequate access for testing and repair of the assembly. Reduced pressure principle assemblies and double check valve assemblies shall not be installed in a pit or enclosure below ground level.

SECTION 4: RESPONSIBILITY OF WATER SYSTEM

- 4.01 Surveys. An authorized agent of the Water System, utilizing written guidelines published by the Mississippi State Department of Health, shall conduct surveys and on-site visits as necessary to locate existing cross connections. Single family dwellings and multi-family dwellings designed to house no more than eight families shall not be included in this survey unless the officials of the Water System have reason to believe a cross connection exists. The survey of the Water System shall be completed by an individual approved by the Water System. Upon completion of this survey, the responsible official of the Water System shall certify to the Mississippi State Department of Health, on forms provided by the Department, that the required survey has been properly performed and completed in accordance with the written guidelines published by the Department.
- 4.02 Right of Entry. The Water System, acting through its authorized agent, shall have the right to enter any non-residential building, during reasonable hours, to inspect the plumbing system installed in any such building or premises provided prior notification of the inspection is given. The authorized agent shall first obtain consent of the owner to enter any single-family dwelling.

- 4.03 Classification of Hazard. Each cross connection found will be classified as High Hazard or Low Hazard by the authorized agent of the Water System. If a connection is found to be a high hazard cross connection, the owner of the connection shall be notified in writing within ten (10) days, that the cross connection must be eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer approved by the Water System within one year of notification.
- 4.04 Selecting the Appropriate Backflow Preventer. It shall be the responsibility of the Water System, acting through its agent, to determine the type of backflow preventer required at each cross connection and the location where the backflow preventer will be installed. The type of backflow preventer and the required installation location will be selected by the Water System utilizing guidelines published by the Mississippi State Department of Health.
- 4.05 Existing Backflow Preventers. Any backflow prevention device or assembly installed on the Water System to protect the Water System against the possibility of backflow from a customer's water service prior to the adoption of this policy shall be governed by this policy. Existing backflow preventer shall be inspected and tested within 90 days of identification.
- 4.06 Review of Meter Applications. The Water System, acting through its authorized agent, shall review all applications of new meters to determine if a cross connection will be created. The Water System shall require the installation of an approved backflow preventer at all new connections where a cross connection will be created.
- 4.07 Inspections. The Water System, acting through its authorized agent, will periodically inspect any connection to the Water System as deemed necessary to insure cross connections have not been created. These inspections may be conducted without prior notice to the consumer.
- 4.08 Record Keeping. The Water System shall maintain records of the type, size and location of each backflow preventer installed in the system, when each backflow preventer is due to be tested, and the results of each test. Records shall be maintained for five (5) years from date of test and inspection.

SECTION 5: TESTING OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

- 5.01 Tests Required. Each reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly, double check valve assembly, and pressure vacuum breaker installed on the Water system shall be tested after installation, after repairs of any kind, and annually. Any backflow preventer found to non-functional shall be repaired and re-tested within 14 days of the initial test.
- 5.02 Certified Testers. Only backflow preventer testers certified by the Mississippi State Department of Health shall test backflow preventers located in the Water System.

Descriptor Term:

EBBA

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

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5.03 Notification. The Water System shall notify the owner of each backflow preventer 60 days prior to the date that the backflow preventer is scheduled to be tested.

SECTION 6: VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

6.01 Refusal of Inspection. If the owner refuses to let the authorized agent of the water System perform the necessary inspections to determine if a cross connection exists, the Water System shall require that a reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly be installed at that service connection.

6.02 Maintaining a Cross Connection. If the owner, after having been informed that a cross connection exists at his property, refuses to eliminate or protect the cross connection through the use of the appropriate backflow preventer, water service to the connection shall be terminated until such time as the owner complies with Mississippi State Department of Health regulations.

Reference: Mississippi State Department of Health
Cross Connection Program Reference Manual