

## WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

"All premises intended for human habitation or occupancy shall be provided with a potable water supply. The potable water supply shall not be connected to non-potable water and shall be protected from backflow and back siphonage."

77Ill. Adm. Code 890.1110

"The water distribution system shall be protected against backflow. Each water outlet shall be protected from backflow by having the outlet end from which the water flows spaced a distance above the flood-level rim of the receptacle into which the water flows sufficient to provide a minimum fixed air gap. Where it is not possible to provide a minimum fixed air gap, the water outlet shall be equipped with an accessible backflow prevention device or assembly in accordance with subsection (f) or Section 890.1140."

77 Ill. Adm. Code 890.1130 (c)

"There shall be no arrangement of connection by which any unsafe substance may enter a supply."

35 Ill. Adm. Code 607-104 (b)

## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY MODEL ORDINANCE

"BE IT ORDAINED by the council of the city, State of Illinois..."

That the Superintendent of Water is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue, after reasonable notice, the water service to any property wherein a cross-connection exists.

"That the consumer responsible for back siphoned material or contamination of the potable water supply system occurs through an illegal cross-connection or an improperly installed, maintained or repaired device which has been bypassed, must bear the cost of cleanup of the potable water supply system."

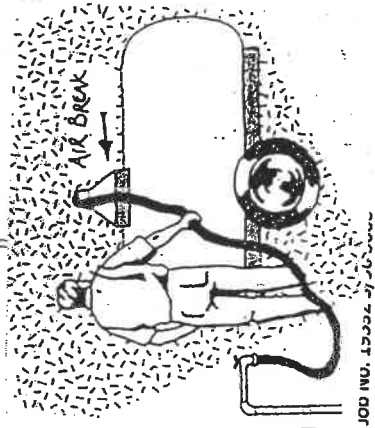
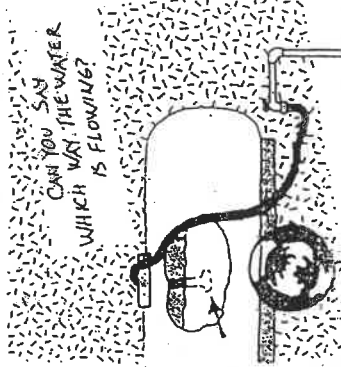
## HOW TO PREVENT ENTRY OF CONTAMINATION

When the hazard of contamination exists, effective steps should be taken to correct the condition or backflow prevention devices should be installed on any internal system at the service connection.

Use only cross-connection control device approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and this public water supply.

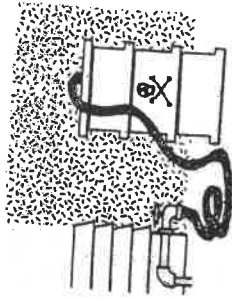
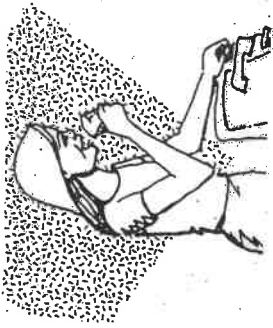
Awareness of how contamination can enter a system and installation of backflow or back siphonage devices are necessary to effectively control these potentially hazardous connections.

Further information can be obtained from a licensed plumber or your public water supply officials.



JOB NO. 15532 3/90 5000

## ATTENTION! ALL PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY CONSUMERS!



## LET'S PREVENT CONTAMINATION FROM ENTERING OUR WATER SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

## HOW CAN YOU BE AFFECTED?

"Stomach flu" (gastroenteritis) is perhaps the most common ailment suffered by those drinking contaminated water. The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have documented many cases directly attributing the following illnesses and others to contaminated drinking water:

Brucellosis	Giardiasis
Campylobacter	Hepatitis
Chemical Poisoning	Hookworm
Cholera	Paratyphoid Fever
Diarrhea Enteritis	Typhoid
Dysentery	Polio

A drop in pressure in the potable water system could result in a backflow or back siphonage of contaminated material into the system and out the faucet.



## Backflow Back siphonage

- Contact point: A submerged inlet in the second floor bathtub.
- Cause of Reverse Flow: An automobile breaks a nearby fire hydrant, causing a negative pressure into service line to the house, sucking dirty water out of the bathtub.
- Suggested Correction: The hot and cold water inlets to the bathtub should be above the rim of the tub.

## SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION WHICH REQUIRE ATTENTION

### IN THE HOME:

Area with plumbing fixtures:

Kitchen—sink, dishwasher, disposal  
Bathroom—toilet, washbasin, bathtub, shower  
Basement & Outdoors—hose bib (faucet to which a hose may be attached)

### AT WORK:

Industrial, commercial and health facilities are subject to many types of cross-connection:

Bottling Plants	Industrial Mixing Tanks
Fire Systems	Laboratories
Heating and Cooling Systems	Mortuaries
Hospitals	Paint and Ink Mills
Hydraulically Operated Equipment	Plating Works

### AT LEISURE AREAS:

Many recreational facilities have separate water systems and plumbing connections which also may be improperly installed and maintained. Some of these locations include:

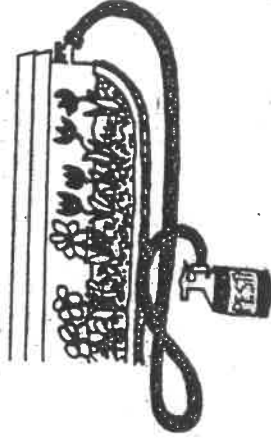
Campgrounds	Golf Courses
County Fairgrounds	Swimming Pools
Parks and Playgrounds	Fountains

## EXAMPLES OF RESIDENTIAL CONTAMINATION

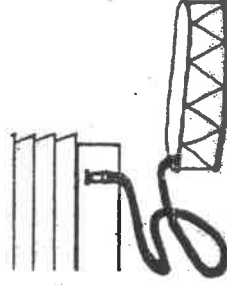
When a garden hose is not fitted with an approved cross-connection control device, occasional water pressure disorders can occur in the public water supply distribution system or within our own residence.

Such water pressure disorders, commonly called "backflow", usually happen without warning when the pressure in our homes or within the public water supply drops. Water flow is then reversed in pipes, and may cause contaminants to be sucked into plumbing systems through unprotected hoses.

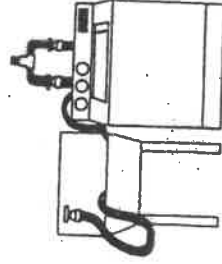
Some residences may have used private wells at some time in the past, but were later connected to the public water supply system. If the old well remains in operation, with valves to allow its use in the customer's water supply system, the potential for back siphonage from that well water into the distribution exists. The private well must be completely and permanently disconnected from the public system.



Backflow could transmit deadly poisons from this pesticide sprayer.....



Or dirty water from this wading pool....



Or detergents from this laundry tub.