Backflow Prevention (BFP) Assemblies
The severity of the potential health hazard created by a cross connection will determine the type of testable device required for protection.

Reduced Pressure Principle Assembly (RP)

Double Check Valve Assembly (DCVA)

Hose Connection Vacuum Breakers and Approved Air Gaps are examples of non-testable protection against backflow.

Examples of Typical Cross Connections
- Lawn Irrigation Systems
- Fire Sprinkler Systems
- Industrial Fluid Processing Systems
- Boiler Systems
- Pools
- Cooling Towers & Chillers

Note: This is NOT a complete list.

If you have questions, comments or for more information:
Call: Environmental Utilities at 403.529.8176
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Fax: 403.525.8624
Email: eu@medicinehat.ca
@medicinehatcity CityofMedicineHat
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www.medicinehat.ca
Cross Connection Control Program

The purpose of the Cross Connection Control (CCC) Program is to safeguard the public water supply by helping to prevent backflow of harmful chemicals, bacteria and other pollutants and contaminants.

As per the City of Medicine Hat Water Bylaw #2379 - testable backflow protection is required on all systems, fixtures, containers or appliances whether it be located in residential, commercial, industrial etc. facilities that may pose a hazard to or have the potential to contaminate the drinking water system.

What is Backflow?
Reverse flow of water, wastewater or any other liquid, chemical or substance back into the drinking water system.

Backflow can be caused by a heating system or any other system that operates at a higher pressure than the public water supply. It may also be caused when a siphon is created by undersized piping or by an interruption of the water supply during plumbing or water infrastructure repairs.

Water supply or pressure is not guaranteed and can be interrupted at any time. Proper protection to any and all hazards by CSA approved backflow prevention assemblies is required.

Water Contamination
Improper plumbing connections on private property can contaminate the public water supply with harmful chemicals and/or bacteria and are a threat to public safety.

Facility Inspections
City of Medicine Hat Cross Connection Control (CCC) Officers have the authority to inspect your facility for any potential cross connection in accordance with the Water Service Bylaw #2379. Should your facility be identified as requiring backflow prevention, you will be sent a letter detailing the number and type of backflow prevention (BFP) assemblies required. Provide this information to the Registered Tester of your choice when having the device installed.

Installation & Testing
The City of Medicine Hat will provide you with a list of Registered Testers. After a BFP assembly is installed, it must pass a standard test as completed by a Registered Tester. Only test reports submitted by a Registered Tester will be accepted.

BFP Assemblies must be tested, at minimum, annually after initial installation and testing. Assemblies must also be tested after being cleaned, repaired, relocated, or as required by CCC Officers.
The City of Medicine Hat will provide you with a courtesy notice annually as a reminder to have your BFP assemblies tested.

Liability
If an improper plumbing connection causes a public health hazard, the responsible property owners and/or occupants may be held liable for damages.

Owner’s Responsibility
Safeguarding Medicine Hat's drinking water is everyone’s responsibility.

The province of Alberta meets its responsibility by setting high standards for water quality and by monitoring Medicine Hat’s water supply system.
The City of Medicine Hat meets its responsibility by supplying excellent drinking water that is well within the “Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines” and the “License to Operate”, issued by Alberta Environment and Parks.

Owners and occupants have a responsibility too! Where cross connections exist on their property, BFP assemblies must be installed as per the City of Medicine Hat Water Service Bylaw #2379; Alberta Safety Codes Act; National Plumbing Code of Canada; and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) B64.10 Manual.

Owners / Occupants that do not adhere to the CCC Program requirements risk having their water supply disconnected for non-compliance.

The City of Medicine Hat and you... Partners in Safe Drinking Water!