

# SHERWOOD WATER AND UTILITY

**What is a Cross Connection?** - A cross connection is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. State plumbing codes require approved backflow prevention methods to be installed at every point of potable water connection and use. Cross-connections must be properly protected or eliminated.

**How does contamination occur?** - When you turn on your faucet, you expect the water to be as safe as when it left the treatment plant. However, certain hydraulic conditions left unprotected within your plumbing system may allow hazardous substances to contaminate your own drinking water or even the public water supply.

**Backsiphonage** — May occur due to a loss of pressure in the municipal water system during a fire fighting emergency, a water main break or system repair. This creates a siphon in your plumbing system, which can draw water out of a sink or bucket and back into your water or the public water system.

**Backpressure** — May be created when a source of pressure (such as a boiler) creates a pressure greater than the pressure supplied from the public water system. This may cause contaminated water to be pushed into your plumbing system through an unprotected cross connection.

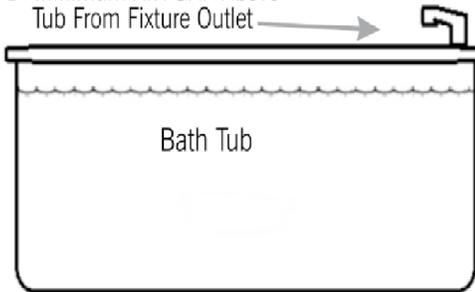
## Hand Held Shower Fixture

**A hand held shower is compliant if:**

- 1 — When shower head is hanging freely, it is at least 1" above top of the flood level rim of the receptor (tub)
- 2 — Complies with **ASSE #1014**
- 3 — Has the **ASME code 112.18.1** stamped on the handle



1" Minimum AIR GAP Above Tub From Fixture Outlet

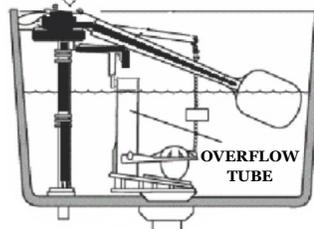


## Toilet Tanks

There are many unapproved toilet tank fill valve products sold at common retailers which do not meet the state plumbing code requirements for backflow prevention:

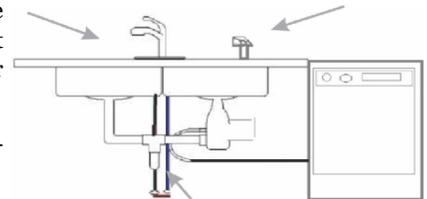
- 1 — Look for the **ASSE #1002 Standard** symbol on the device and packaging
- 2 — Replace any unapproved devices with **ASSE #1002** approved anti-siphon ball-cock assembly. Average cost is typically \$12 to \$22 at home improvement stores.
- 3 — Verify overflow tube is 1" below critical level (CL) marking on the device.

### ASSE #1002 Approved Ball Cock Assembly



Toilet water tank

## Kitchen Sink



Hoses and water treatment devices may create a potential backflow hazard if not properly isolated with backflow prevention methods.

## Did You Know... ?

Water can become contaminated if connections on your plumbing system are not properly protected! The purpose of the local Cross-Connection Control Program, as required by the State Plumbing Code and Regulations (and WI Dept. of Natural Resources), is to ensure everyone in the community has safe, clean drinking water.

To avoid contamination, backflow preventers are required wherever there is an actual or potential hazard for cross-connection, per the State Plumbing Code.

All public water suppliers are required to maintain an on-going Cross-Connection Program involving public education, onsite inspections, and possible corrective actions by building owners if required.

Attn: If installing a water operated sump pump a backflow preventer is required

Sump pumps are not allowed to drain into the road right-of-way.

## Insights to Protect Your Drinking Water...

- Do:**
- 1 — Keep the ends of hoses clear of all possible contaminants.
  - 2 — Make sure dishwashers are installed with a proper "air gap" device.
  - 3 — Verify and install a **hose bibb vacuum breaker** on all threaded faucets around your home.
  - 4 — Make sure water treatment devices such as water softeners have the proper "air gap", which is a minimum of 1" inch above any drain.

**Don't:** 1 — Submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks or ponds.

2 — Use spray attachments without a backflow prevention device.

3 — Connect waste pipes from water softeners or other treatment systems directly to the sewer or submerged drain pipe. Always be sure there is a 1" "air gap" separation.

