

In The Villages, we are fortunate to have a water system that delivers high quality drinking water for our community to enjoy. Our water system is continually monitored to ensure that our water is safe and ready to consume. To help maintain a safe water supply, customers who utilize certain equipment should install additional protection in order to avoid any cross connection.

Cross Connections Might Be Found in Plumbing Connections Areas Such As:

- Fertigation Systems
- Water Softeners
- Hose Bibs

What is a Cross Connection?

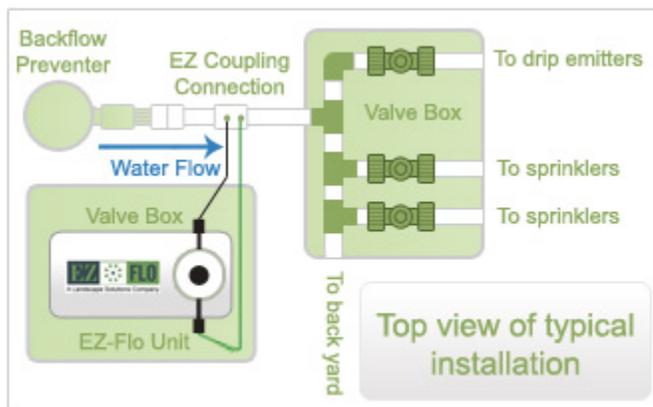
A cross connection is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (Potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. State plumbing codes require approved backflow prevention methods to be installed at every point of potable water connection in use. Cross connections must 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, under certain conditions, water can actually flow backwards, commonly referred to as backflow.

What Can I Do To Prevent Contamination?

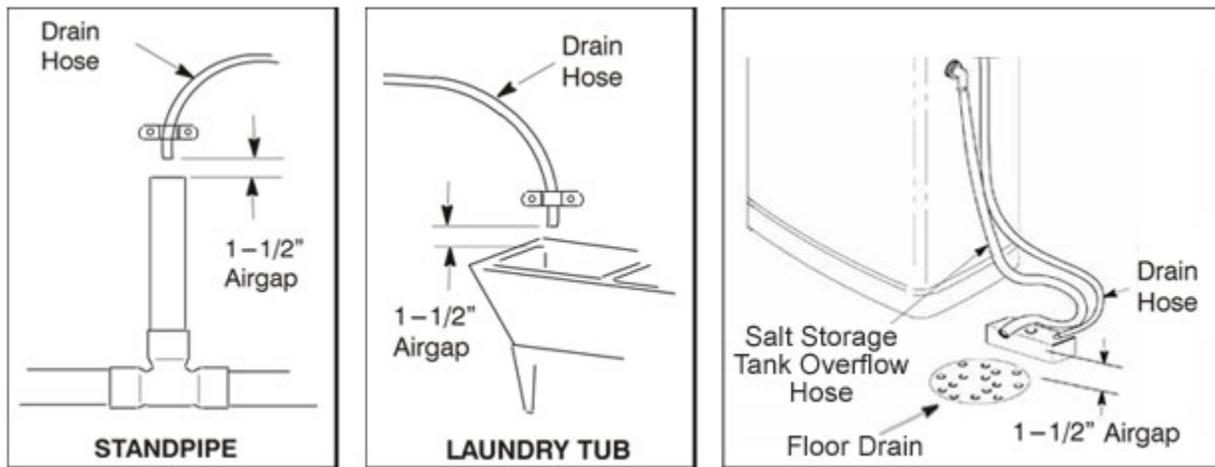
Fertigation Systems



Do: Install a reduced pressure backflow assembly on the home side of the water meter to protect our potable water system.

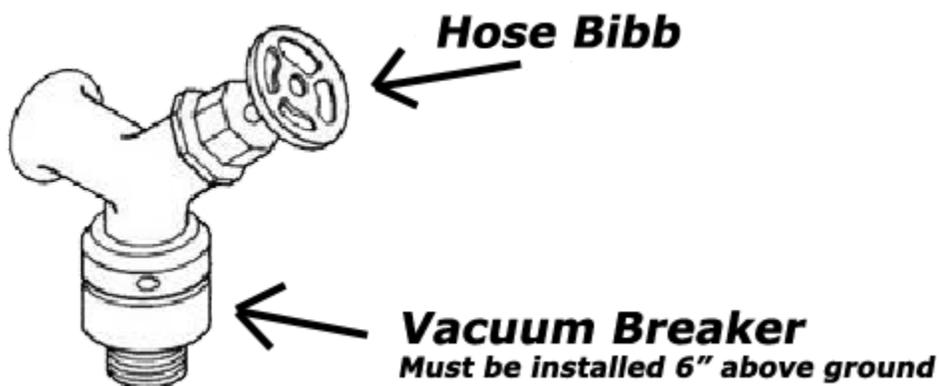
- Do: Ensure that the system has backflow protection to your home's water lines.
- Do: Notify Utility Customer Service at 352-750-0000 that you have a fertigation system installed.
- Don't: Allow installation by anyone other than a licensed and insured contractor.

Water Softeners



- Do: Make sure water treatment devices such as water softeners have the proper "air gap" which is a minimum of one inch above any drain.
- Don't: Connect waste pipes from water softeners or other treatment systems directly to the sewer or submerged drain pipes.

Hoses and Hose Bibs



- DO: Keep the ends of hoses clear of all possible contaminants.
- Do: Install a Hose Bib vacuum breaker on all spigots. These are easy to install and are available at all hardware or plumbing stores.
- DON'T: Submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks, ponds, etc.
- DON'T: Use a hose to unplug blocked toilets, sewers, etc.