

## Cross-Connection Control/Backflow Prevention General Information

What is cross-connection?

A cross-connection is any actual or potential connection between the public or consumer's potable water system and any non-potable source or substance that present a hazard to the quality of the public or consumer's potable water system. Therefore, cross-connection control is the management or "control" of these cross-connections to protect public safety by preventing backflow incidents within the public or water consumer's potable water system.

What is backflow?

Typically, water will flow from the public water supply to the consumer's plumbing distribution system. Backflow is the undesirable reversal of this flow of water and undesirable substances from the non-potable source to the potable source.

Why do we need a cross-connection control/backflow prevention program?

The standards for backflow prevention are established in the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Manual for the Selection and Installation of Backflow Preventers/Maintenance and Field Testing of Backflow Preventers (CSA B64.10). Backflow prevention is designed to protect the public water supply from contamination from non-drinkable sources. For this reason, the Town of Woolwich created a cross-connection control program with the goal of ensuring the quality of supplied water and protecting water customers.

### Administering the Program

BSI Online ULC is North America's leading cross-connection control/backflow data management and program administration firm. BSI Online has partnered with over 550 water purveyors to develop and manage effective cross-connection control programs to help protect all our water resources. BSI helps water purveyors by sending notifications, assists with customer service inquiries, and manages required data on behalf of the.

Town of Woolwich has contracted with BSI Online to assist the Town of Woolwich with Province required cross-connection/backflow tracking regulations. BSI Online will serve as the primary point of contact for the program and can be contacted below:

- **Customer Service Information:**
  - Phone: 604-492-0613
  - Email: [backflow@bsionline.ca](mailto:backflow@bsionline.ca)
  - Website: <https://bsionline.ca>

### External Resources



[bsionline.ca](https://bsionline.ca)



PO Box 51324 Cameron PO  
Burnaby, BC V3J 0C9



604.492.0163

BSI Backflow Academy - <https://backflow.com/backflow-academy/>

Canada Standards Association B64.10-11/B64.10.1-11 – Selection and installation of backflow preventers/Maintenance and field testing of backflow preventers (2011)

Government of Canada - <https://inspection.canada.ca/preventive-controls/preventing-water-backflow/eng/1511372920703/1528207018637>

University of Southern California Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research (USC FCCCHR) - <https://fccchr.usc.edu/>

American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) - <https://www.abpa.org>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Cross-Connection Control Manual - [https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/epa816r03002\\_0.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-09/documents/epa816r03002_0.pdf)

