

TOWN OF SALEM
CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND BACK-FLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM

Consumers turn their faucets on and what they believe to be "safe drinking water" is immediately available. They assume the water is safe. However, despite strict regulations, extremely dangerous situations can occur when back-flow of contaminants is inadvertently entered into the drinking water supply. One example would be. A person is spraying a weed killer on their lawn using a hose attachment. At the same time there is a pressure loss in the water distribution system. The weed killer could be sucked back into the house through the hose. It could even get back to the water main. This would contaminate the drinking water and could cause illness or worse. A garden hose is the most common cause of water contamination from back-flow. There are some things you can do to prevent this from occurring.

- < Don't use spray attachments without a back-flow prevention device
- < Install back-flow prevention devices (hose bib vacuum breakers) on all threaded faucets around your home
- < Never submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, or sinks
- < Always keep the end of your hose clear of possible contaminants

There are many ways the drinking water supply can become contaminated. With our Cross-Connection Control and Back-flow Device Prevention Program we can eliminate most of the occurrence

If you would like more information on this program. Please contact the Salem Water Department