

**City of Parsons Parallel Reference Table**

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## **Appendix B**

Cross Connection Control Plan  
For  
City of Parsons Water Department

(as added by Ord. #275, Dec. 2007)



## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Goal

The goal of the City of Parsons Water Department is to supply safe water to each and every customer under all foreseeable circumstances. Each instance where water is used improperly so as to create the possibility of backflow threatens the health and safety of our customers and threatens our chances of realizing this goal. The possibility of backflow due to improper use of water within the customer's premises is especially significant, because such cross connections may easily result in the contamination of our water supply mains. The only protection against such occurrences is the elimination of such cross connections or the isolation of such hazards from the water supply lines by properly installed approved backflow prevention devices.

### B. Plan of Action

The City of Parsons Water Department is determined to take every reasonable precaution to see that cross connections are not allowed to contaminate the water being distributed to its customers. This cross connection plan outlines a program of action designed to control cross connections within the area served by the utility. This plan is intended to be a practical guide for safeguarding the quality of water distributed from becoming contaminated or polluted through backflow.

## II. Authority for Controlling Cross Connections

A copy of the ordinance is attached to this plan. This ordinance prohibits cross connections within the water system, authorizes the system to make inspections of the customer's premises, requires that cross connection hazards be connected and provides for enforcement.

## III. Program to be Pursued

The City of Parsons Water Department will establish and active on-going cross connection program. This program is to be a continuing effort to locate and correct all existing cross connection hazards and to discourage the creation of new problems. Safeguarding the quality of water being distributed to our customers is a high priority concern of the management of the City of Parsons Water Department

A. Staffing

The City of Parsons Water Department has designated an individual to see that the program to control cross connections is pursued in an aggressive and effective manner. It is proposed that ample time will be devoted to the program to ensure its effectiveness. Additional personnel will be added as is deemed necessary.

- B. The City of Parsons Water Department will visit the premises of all customers likely to have cross connections. The various water users within the premises will be investigated to determine if backflow can occur. Follow-up visits will continue until the threat of backflow has been corrected. In addition, routine visits will be made periodically to determine if backflow prevention measures are maintained, and are functioning properly and that new cross connections have not been created.

C. Public Awareness Efforts

The City of Parsons Water Department recognizes that it is important to inform its customers of the health hazards associated with cross connections and to acquaint them with the program being pursued to safeguard the quality of water being distributed. The water system will seek to acquaint the customers with the health hazards associated with cross connections in an effort to get their cooperation.

D. Customer's Responsibility

Cross connections, created and maintained by the customer for his convenience, endanger the health and safety of all who depend upon the public water supply. Therefore, the customer who creates a cross connection problem shall bear the expense of providing necessary backflow protection and for keeping the protective measures in good working order.

E. Enforcement

Where cross connections exist, the water system will require the problem to be eliminated or isolated by a properly installed, approved backflow prevention device to prevent the possibility of backflow into the distribution system. Such protective measures will include, where internal corrections do not fully protect the

water system, a backflow protection device on the customer's water service line ahead of any water outlets. Every effort will be made to secure the voluntary cooperation of the customer in correcting cross connection hazards. If voluntary corrective action can not be obtained within a reasonable period of time, water service will be discontinued, for the protection of the health and safety of the other customers.

#### IV. Scheduling Inspections

The selection of existing premises for cross connection surveys will be made on the basis of suspected hazard. In general, those customers suspected of having the most hazardous cross connections will be investigated first. Investigations shall continue until all premises considered likely to have cross connection problems have been investigated. Follow-up visits will be made to ensure that all customers having problems are in compliance.

#### V. Procedures for Inspections

The City of Parsons Water Department will make every effort to inform customers of potential problems at their facilities. Inspections will involve the customer's entire internal water delivery system. The findings will be reported to the owner or occupant in writing along with a request for need corrective action necessary to properly protect the public water system.

A. Since some customers may need to make preparation for a visit, these customers will be notified that a survey is being scheduled. Arrangement will be made in advance for someone, who is knowledgeable about the facilities plumbing, to accompany the inspector during the survey.

#### B. Unannounced Visits

The City of Parsons Water Department plans to make unannounced visits to some facilities. These visits will be made where (1) no difficulty is expected in locating the occupant or a knowledgeable representative, (2) where unannounced visits will not be disruptive, (3) where advanced warning could result in an unrealistic picture of typical water usage.

C. Field Visit Procedures

During the investigation, a detailed survey sheet will be completed. This sheet will explain problem areas and recommendations to correct these problems. A follow-up letter will be sent to each customer inspected.

D. Follow-up Visits and Re-inspections

Follow-up visits will be made as needed to assist the customer and to assure that corrective action has been taken.

E. Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices

The City of Parsons Water Department will provide each customer who is required to install a backflow device with a complete set of installation requirements. The system's representative will inspect each installation before it is approved.

F. Technical Assistance

The system will offer assistance as needed to ensure compliance.

VI. Protective Measures Required

A. The City of Parsons Water Department will evaluate the customer's entire internal water delivery system and make a determination of the best means to prevent cross connection. Where the survey reveals that internal devices may be used to remove the hazard, the water system will take this into consideration and will discuss this with the customer.

B. Main-line Protection

Main-line protection or protective devices on the customer's service line, will be required on all premises where the water system has reservations that anything less could compromise the goal of the water system to deliver safe water under all unforeseeable circumstances to all of its customers.

C. Acceptable Protective Devices

All backflow prevention devices used for the protection of the water system must be of a make and model acceptable to the City of

Parsons Water Department and the Division of Water Supply. Installation must meet the minimum standards of the City of Parsons Water Department and the Division of Water Supply.

VII. Installation and Testing of Protective Measures

A. Approval of New Installations

All new installations must be inspected and approved by the City of Parsons Water Department.

B. Routine Inspection and Testing of Protective Measures

To assure that all devices are functioning promptly, the City of Parsons Water Department will make routine inspections at least annually.

C. Routine Re-visits

Re-visits will be made to ensure that no new hazards have been created and that no protective device has been altered or bypassed. Where service line protection is not in place, a complete inspection of the customer's facility will be made.

D. Re-inspection of Other Premises

Premises where no cross connection existed will be routinely re-inspected if there is a probability that a cross connection could occur in the future.

VIII. Premises Requiring Maximum Protection Measures

A. Where cross connections are found which pose an extreme hazard of immediate concern, the cross connection inspector shall require immediate corrective action to be taken. In the case of non-compliance, immediate steps will be taken to discontinue water service until corrective action is taken.

B. Premises of Less Immediate Concern

In cases where there is less likelihood, a reasonable time period will be allowed for corrections. The time to correct problems will never exceed ninety days.

## IX. Testing of Protective Devices

The City of Parsons Water Department recognizes that it is essential that competent testers test backflow prevention devices on a regular basis.

### A. Routine Testing of Devices

All reduced pressure backflow devices, double check valves and double detector checks will be tested by a trained certified tester in keeping with the following criteria:

1. Immediately following installation
2. At least annually and more frequently in high hazard cases
3. Any time a device has been partially disassembled for cleaning or repairs
4. Where it is apparent that the device may not be functioning properly

### B. Repairs

Following repairs, a protective device will require testing to ensure that it is operating properly. This testing is to be performed by a competent certified tester. The owner will bear all cost associated with repairs of devices.

### C. Official Tests

Representatives of the City of Parsons Water Department will perform routine tests of protective devices. The cost of these tests will be passed on to the owner of the device.

### D. Prior Arrangements for Testing

When possible prior arrangements will be made for a mutually agreeable time for testing of devices.

### E. Parallel Units

Where the customer cannot readily accommodate interruptions of water service for testing, parallel units should be installed.

## Records

Good records are invaluable in the water system's efforts to safeguard the quality of water being distributed against degradation from backflow through cross connections. The City of Parsons Water Department will maintain adequate records in their permanent files. These records will include inspection forms, test results forms, agreements with customers and copies of correspondence with customers or the state.