

# backflow prevention and cross connection control PROGRAM

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires all municipalities with water systems to develop and maintain a routine Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Program. The goal is to prevent cross connections from allowing contaminants into the potable water supply. This can occur when backflow conditions occur.



**How can I find a Certified Tester?**  
Miami-Dade County has published a list of companies that have Certified Testers. Visit:  
[http://www.miamidade.gov/wasd/library/certified\\_tester\\_companies.pdf](http://www.miamidade.gov/wasd/library/certified_tester_companies.pdf)

**Where can I get a Backflow Prevention Assembly?**  
A properly licensed plumber and/or contractor can install a Backflow Prevention Assembly.



## Let Us Work Together for a Cleaner Greener Tomorrow!

To learn more about the North Miami Beach Public Services Department's Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Program, please call

**(305) 948-2967 or visit [www.citynmb.com](http://www.citynmb.com).**



Mayor Myron Rosner  
Councilman Philippe Derosé  
Councilman John Patrick Julien  
Councilwoman Barbara Kramer  
Councilman Frantz Pierre  
Councilwoman Phyllis S. Smith  
Councilwoman Beth E. Spiegel  
Kelvin L. Baker, City Manager  
Darcee S. Siegel, City Attorney  
Susan A. Owens, City Clerk

**meters/backflow**  
D I V I S I O N  
City of North Miami Beach PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
Shari Kamali, Interim Director  
17050 NE 19 Avenue  
North Miami Beach, FL 33162  
(305) 948-2967 [www.nmbworks.com](http://www.nmbworks.com)

# control program

## Backflow

Backflow occurs when there is a dramatic change in pressure within the water distribution system. The change in pressure causes the water in the system to reverse and flow in the opposite direction. Backflow conditions could allow contaminants to enter the potable drinking water system through cross connections.

## Cross Connection

A cross connection is a temporary or permanent piping arrangement that could allow contaminated water to enter the system should a backflow condition to occur. Cross connections can be found in all plumbing systems both large and small.

## Identifying Cross Connections

Identifying cross connections is an important step to protect the drinking water supply. Once identified, it must be evaluated to ensure the proper backflow prevention device is installed. In most cases, cross connections will need to be controlled through the installation of an approved mechanical backflow prevention device/assembly.

- Fire sprinkler systems
- Hose bibs
- Boilers

## include:

## Common locations of cross connections

are required to have and maintain a backflow prevention device:

Pursuant to North Miami Beach City Code Section 19-15.3, the following facilities

## Who is required to have a backflow prevention device?

A backflow preventer is a device or mechanical assembly designed to prevent backflow by using a physical barrier between the potable water supply and potential sources of contamination. In order for a backflow preventer to meet the established standards, it must be designed for the degree of hazard, correctly installed, tested annually by a state certified tester and repaired if required.

## Device

## Backflow Prevention

- Solar heating systems
- Photo development equipment
- Wash basins
- Service Sinks
- Irrigation sprinkler systems
- Swimming pools



- Multi-storied building using booster pump, having a roof reservoir, or unprotected cross connection.
- Structure with auxiliary water system or any potential interconnect with a well
- Car wash facilities
- Commercial or coin laundry
- Film processing laboratories
- Dairy or cold storage plant
- Hospitals
- Funeral Homes
- Convalescent/Nursing Homes
- Medical office building and/or clinics (Doctors, Dentists, and Veterinarians)
- Health Spas
- Chemical plants - manufacturing, processing, compounding or treatment
- Natural or LP Gas processing or storage facilities
- Dry Cleaner (with chemical cleaner operation)
- Barber shops or Beauty salons
- Waterfront facilities (commercial, or residential)
- Mobile Home Parks - travel and residential irrigation systems using potable water

## What is a Certified Tester and why would I need one?

If you are installing a new backflow preventer or repairing an assembly that has failed its yearly test, you will need to contact a Certified Tester to install or replace it. Many plumbing, fire sprinkler, lawn irrigation, and backflow preventer testing companies have Certified Testers on staff and are listed in the local telephone directories.

## What is the cost of having my backflow preventer tested?

A Backflow preventer has internal parts, seals and springs that can foul up through normal wear and tear. Annual testing of the device ensures that it is functioning properly.



## ANNUAL TESTS