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# Cross- Connections **in the Home**

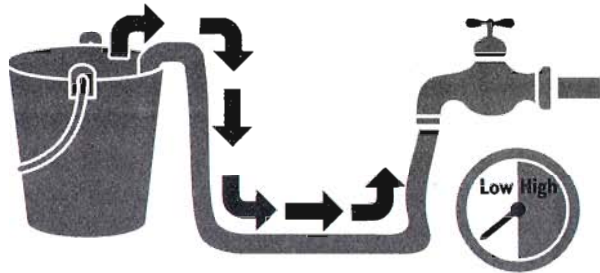
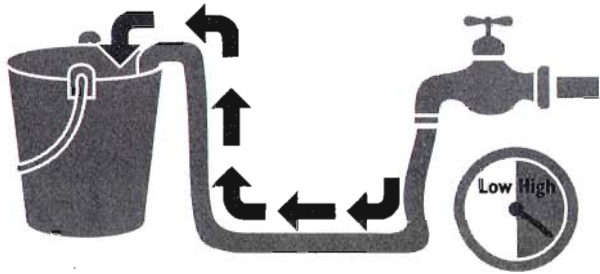


County of Ventura  
Environmental Health Division  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, California 93009-1730

## Cross-Connection in the Home

A cross-connection is a connection between the drinking water system and a source of pollution or contamination which may, under certain circumstances, enter the drinking water system.

This reversal of flow is called a **backflow** and may occur in the home, often as a result of **backsiphonage**.

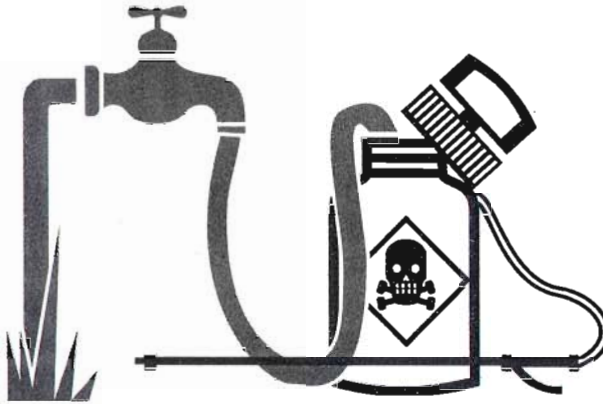


Backsiphonage occurs when pressure drops in the drinking water system.

A backflow may also be caused by **back-pressure**, which occurs when a source of pressure greater than the drinking water system is present.

### What can you do to protect yourself and your family from cross-connection around the home?

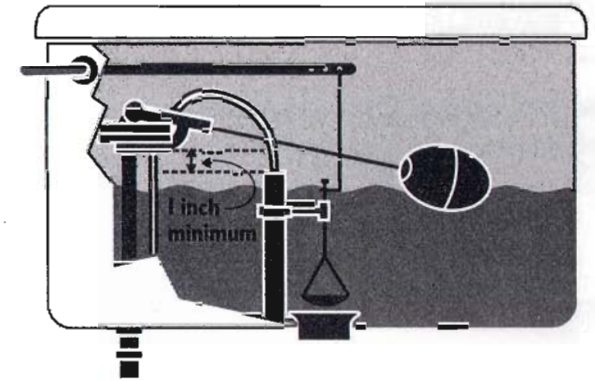
- 1** Never place a hose into a sink, drain, swimming pool, koi pond, chemical sprayer, etc.



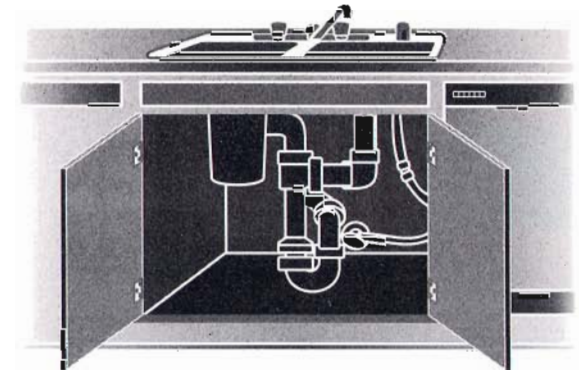
- 2** Exercise caution with aspirator type (hose end) sprayers. Some types may pose a backsiphonage risk.



- 3** Check your toilet tanks for properly installed anti-siphon ballcocks.



- 4** Inspect water treatment devices, dishwashers, etc. for proper waste connections. Consult a knowledgeable plumber or your Building and Safety Department.



- 5** If you have a pool or spa with a permanently installed fill line, make sure a properly installed backflow preventer is in line between the pool or spa and your drinking water system. Irrigation systems need protection too!

## **Water Quality Protection**



If you have questions or would like to know more about water quality protection and cross-connection control in your community, contact your local water supplier or the

Ventura County Environmental Health Division at 805/654-2436.

### **For Further Information:**

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