

## **Article V. CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN (Ordinance 25-1)**

### **REPLACEMENT OF ORDINANCE 89-1**

The Willow Creek Community Services District does ordain as follows:

#### **Section 5.01 Purpose**

The purpose of this plan/ordinance is to protect the public water supply from contamination due to potential and actual cross-connection. This shall be accomplished by the establishment of this Cross-Connection Control Plan as required by State Regulations. This plan/ordinance is adopted per the California State Water Resource Control Board's December 19, 2023 adoption of the Cross-connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH), effective July 1, 2024. The CCCPH and its standards apply to all California Public Water Systems (PWS), as defined in California's Health and Safety Code (CHSC, section 116275 (h)). Compliance with this CCCPH is mandatory for all California PWSs.

This plan has been developed to maintain compliance with each requirement of the State CCCPH.

#### **Section 5.02 Definitions**

- A. **Air-Gap Separation (AG)** is a physical break between a supply pipe and a receiving vessel.
- B. **Approved Backflow Prevention Device** means devices which have passed testing laboratory and field evaluation tests performed by a recognized testing organization which has demonstrated their competency to perform such tests to the California Department of Health Services.
- C. **Approved Water Supply** is any water supply whose potability is regulated by a state or local health agency.
- D. **Auxiliary Water Supply** is any water supply on or available to the premises other than the Approved Water Supply.
- E. **Cross-Connection** is an unprotected actual or potential connection between a potable water system used to supply water for drinking purposes and any source or system containing unapproved water or a substance that is not or cannot be approved as safe, wholesome, and potable. By-pass arrangements, jumper connections, removeable sections, swivel or changeover devices, or other devices through which backflow could occur, shall be considered to be cross-connections.
- F. **Double Check-Valve Assembly (DC)** is an assembly of at least two independently acting check-valves including tightly closing shutoff valves on each side of the check-valve assembly and test cocks available for testing the water-tightness of each check-valve.
- G. **Public Water Supply (PWS)** is a California Public Water System.
- H. **Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly (RP)** is a backflow preventer incorporating not less than two check-valves, an automatically operating differential relief valve located between the two check valves, a tightly closing shut-off valve on each side of the check-valve assembly, and equipped with necessary test cocks for testing.
- I. **User Connection** is the point of connection of a user's piping to the water supplier's facilities.
- J. **Water Supplier** is the person or entity who owns or operates the approved water supply system. For the purposes of this chapter, the term "water supplier" shall mean the District.
- K. **Water User** is any person obtaining water from a public water supply.

### **Section 5.03 Personnel**

The Cross-Connection Control Program Manager (CCCPM) shall be responsible for implementing and enforcing the cross-connection control program. Given the Willow Creek Community Services District has less than 3,000 service connections, the cross-connection control program manager is not required to be a cross-connection control specialist.

The General Manager of the Willow Creek Community Services District is identified as the District's Cross-connection Control Program Manager (CCCPM).

The Senior Water Operator of the Willow Creek Community Services District shall be certified as a backflow prevention assembly tester.

### **Section 5.04 Hazard Assessment**

The CCCPM shall conduct an initial hazard assessment survey of water user premises within the WCCSD service area. Additional hazard assessments shall be conducted when the following occurs:

- A. If a use premises changes account holder, excluding single-family residences.
- B. If a user premises is newly or re-connected to the PWS.
- C. If evidence existing of changes in the activities or materials on a user's premises.
- D. If backflow from a user's premises occurs.
- E. If the PWS concludes an existing hazard assessment may no longer accurately represent the degree of hazard.
- F. If the State Water Board requests a hazard assessment of a user's premises.

### **Section 5.05 Backflow Prevention Device**

An approved backflow prevention device shall be installed by and at the expense of the water user at each user connection where required to prevent backflow from the water user's premises to comply with the Willow Creek Community Services District's requirements.

Backflow prevention assemblies shall be installed in a manner prescribed in the Cross-connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) section 3.3.2. Location of the assemblies shall be as close practical to the user's connection. The Willow Creek Community Services District shall have the final authority in determining the required location of a backflow prevention assembly.

Only backflow prevention assemblies which have been approved by the Willow Creek Community Services District shall be acceptable for installation by a water user. A list of approved backflow prevention assemblies will be provided upon request to any affected customer.

### **Section 5.06 Cross-Connection Protection Requirements**

The type of protection that shall be provided to prevent backflow into the public water supply shall be commensurate with the degree of hazard, actual or potential, that exists on the water user's premises. Unprotected cross-connections with the public water supply are prohibited. The type of backflow prevention assembly that may be required (listed in decreasing level of protection) includes: Air-gap separation (AG), and a Double Check Valve Assembly (DC). The water user may choose a higher level of protection than required by the water supplier.

The minimum type of backflow protection required to protect the approved water supply at the user's water connection to premises with varying degrees of hazard shall be per the Cross-connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) section 3.2.2. Situations which are not covered in Table 1 shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and the appropriate backflow protection shall be determined by the water supplier or health agency.

#### **Section 5.07 Testing**

Testing of backflow assemblies shall be conducted only by qualified testers and testing shall be tested at least annually and immediately after installation, relocation or repair. More frequent testing may be required if deemed necessary by the Willow Creek Community Services District. No assembly shall be placed back in service unless it is functioning as required. These assemblies shall be serviced, overhauled, or replaced whenever they are found to be defective and all costs of testing, repair, and maintenance shall be borne by the water user. Approval must be obtained from the Willow Creek Community Services District prior to removing, relocating, or replacing a backflow prevention assembly.

##### **A. Testing by the WCCSD**

The Willow Creek Community Services District is currently providing annual testing of all backflow assemblies on the District system. A monthly charge is added to a customers bill to compensate the District for the annual test. If a backflow assembly does not pass the annual test, the cost of labor and materials to repair the backflow assembly will be charged to the customers water account.

The field test equipment used by the Willow creek Community Services District is certified each year prior to testing.

#### **Section 5.08 Non-testable backflows**

Each non-testable backflow preventer that is used within the District shall be inspected once a year by the District to confirm it is maintain in accordance to the California Plumbing Code.

#### **Section 5.09 Corrective Actions and Water Service Termination (Legal Authority)**

When the Willow Creek Community Services District encounters water users that represent a clear and immediate hazard to the potable water supply that cannot be immediately abated, the procedure for terminating water service shall be instituted. Conditions or water users that create a basis for water service termination shall include, but not limited to the following:

1. Refusal to install or to test a backflow prevention assembly, or to repair or replace a faulty backflow prevention assembly.
2. Direct or indirect connection between the public water system and a sewer line.
3. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the public water system and a system or equipment containing contaminants.
4. Unprotected direct or indirect connection between the public water system and an auxiliary water system.

For conditions 1, the Willow Creek Community Services District will terminate service to a water user's premises after proper notification has been sent. If no action is taken within the allowed time period water services shall be terminated.

For conditions 2, 3, and 4, the Willow Creek Community Services District shall take the following steps:

5. Make reasonable effort to advise the water user of the intent to terminate water service.
6. Terminate water service and lock service valve. The water service shall remain inactive until correction of violations has been approved by the Willow Creek Community Services District.

#### **Section 5.10 Backflow Incidents**

If a known backflow incident occurs, the WCCSD will respond with 24 hours. The WCCSD will notify the State Water Board and Humboldt County Health Department of any known or suspected incident of backflow within 24 hours of the determination. If required by the State Water Board, the District will issue a Tier 1 public notification pursuant to CCR, Title 22, Section 64463.1.

#### **Section 5.11 Tracking system**

The Cross-Connection Control Program Manager shall maintain for the District a tracking system that maintains current and relevant information, including:

- A. Recordkeeping information required pursuant to CCCPH section 3.5.1,
- B. Location and type of each BPA, and
- C. Highest threat potential hazard from which a given BPA is protecting the public water system distribution system;

#### **Section 5.12 Service Application as Contract**

This ordinance contains regulations relating to cross-connections and provides that the application for services constitutes a contract between the applicant and the District whereby the Applicant, as a condition of service, agrees to abide by all Ordinances, Rules and Regulations of the District. The provisions of this Ordinance, including provisions relating to inspection of cross-connection devices shall also constitute and undertaking on the part of the customer to abide by all Ordinances as well as all other Rules, Regulations and Ordinances of the District.

#### **Section 5.13 Public outreach**

The Willow Creek Community Services District will maintain a page with the District's website that contains education information on cross-connection control. The District will periodically make a note on water bills to direct water users to this website for information.

#### **Section 5.14 Coordination with Local Entities**

This Cross-Connection Control Plan shall be reviewed and approved by the State Division of Drinking Water. Any updates or changes to this plan shall also be reviewed.