



VILLAGE OF MINERVA
209 N. MARKET ST.
MINERVA, OH 44657

**BACKFLOW PREVENTION & CROSS-CONNECTION PROGRAM
INFORMATION**

The Backflow and Cross-Connection Control Program for the Village of Minerva is overseen by the Service Director in conjunction with the Water Department. The regulations governing the Backflow and Cross-Connection Control Program can be found in the Village of Minerva Ordinance Chapter 927 and in the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) section 3745-95-01 through 3745-95-09.

The Backflow and Cross-Connection Control Program oversees the installation and testing of backflow devices on water service lines to isolate the potable water system from contaminants that could enter into the water distribution system from the customer.

The purpose of the program is to prevent contamination of the Village's potable water distribution system by the backflow, or back-siphon, of harmful substances into the water distributions system from external services. Potential problems, for example, could be caused by low or negative pressure in the distribution system caused by a fire, other large consumption, or a water main break in which contaminants can siphon back into the distribution system. Cross connections by users can also contaminate the system, for example, by equipment such as machine tooling centers that are connected to the water supply for cooling or fountain soft drink machines. Both example cross-connection sources can create over-pressurization of the connecting water system and can push contaminated water back into the distribution system without proper backflow prevention.

The Village of Minerva, as mandated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, is required to maintain records of all backflow prevention devices installed within the Village distribution system. All backflow prevention devices must be tested, and/or repaired, by a backflow prevention technician certified by the Ohio Department of Commerce, on an annual basis, to assure proper operation. A record of this test procedure must be submitted to the Village of Minerva on an Ohio Backflow Preventer Test Report each calendar year. Any new backflow prevention device installations shall also be reported to the Village on a Backflow Preventer Test Report once installed.

The Village of Minerva does not perform State Certified Annual Inspections of backflow prevention devices. The individual customer is responsible for all yearly testing and repairs of their backflow devices at their own cost. The Village will conduct a Site Survey of each backflow prevention device installation at least once every five years as required by OAC 3745-95-03. Furthermore, any potential backflow or cross-connection risk at a customer location may be inspected by the Village per Village of Minerva Ordinance 927.03. Any questions regarding the Backflow and Cross-connection Control Program shall be directed to: Steve Couch, Water Superintendent, at (330) 868-7705 ext. 161 during normal business hours of 7:00AM to 3:30PM, Monday through Friday.

If you suspect that a cross connection exists at your residence or business, please contact Steve Couch at the Minerva Water Department, either by phone at (330) 868-7705 ext. 161 or email at lzwahlen@ci.minerva.oh.us.