



# Current Events

May 2023

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## Office closures for May:

Our office will be closed on the following dates and times:

- Thursday, May 18, 11:30-1:00 (company meeting)
- Monday, May 29 - Closed all day for Memorial Day

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Want to know more about how to keep our drinking water clean?

Cinco de Mayo fiesta in Draper

## What You Need to Know about Cross-Connections and Backflow

As spring approaches, many people are eager to begin participating in outdoor activities. But any outdoor activity that involves water – such as gardening, slip-n-slides, or washing the car – can increase the risk of a cross-connection or backflow. And that can create a dangerous situation where you could contaminate the drinking water supply for your home and your entire neighborhood.

### What Is a Cross-Connection?

A cross-connection is an actual or potential connection between a public drinking water system and any other source that could introduce pollutants and/or contaminants, such as chemicals, bacteria, pesticides or wastewater, into the drinking water.

### Common Cross-Connections

Residential:

- Lawn irrigation systems
- Hoses and hose bibs (spigots)
- Secondary water sources, such as pressure irrigation

Commercial:

- Carbonator for soda machine
- Lawn irrigation systems
- Chemical dispensers
- Pressure washers
- Fire sprinkling systems

### What Is Backflow?

**Backflow** is the reversal of flow from a residential or commercial water system back into the public drinking water system. A backflow incident could occur if the water system pressure decreases, or the customer's water pressure is higher than the water system pressure. A backflow incident could carry pollutants or contaminants into our public drinking water supplies making them unsafe to use.

The **Plumbing Code and Utah Public Drinking Water Rules** require that all cross connections be eliminated or protected against backflow by installing an approved backflow device or assembly that will ensure that no impurities or contaminants are introduced to the public drinking water supply.

### What Is Backpressure?

**Backpressure** is caused when a private water system or piece of equipment's pressure is greater than the incoming water supply's pressure causing a reversal of flow.

Common causes of backpressure:

- Pumps
- Pressurized irrigation
- Elevation Differences
- Steam/Air Pressure



**Want to know more about how to keep our drinking water clean?**

Here at WaterPro, we are proud to provide clean, great-tasting drinking water to our customers. But keeping our water clean isn't just our job – there's a lot you can do too.

Please visit our website at [www.waterpro.net](http://www.waterpro.net) and click the Source Protection link in the upper right corner to access Drinking Water Fact Sheets from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. The following sheets can be particularly helpful for our residential customers:

- Household Hazardous Waste
- Pesticides
- Septic Tank and Drainfield Systems



**What You Need to Know about Cross-Connections and Backflow, *continued***

**Back-siphonage** is caused when there is a reduction in the water supply's pressure which causes a sub-atmospheric pressure in the water system causing water to reverse in flow.

Common causes of back-siphonage:

- Broken water lines
- Flushing of fire hydrants or firefighting activities
- Inadequate piping size

**How to Prevent Backflow**

It is the property owner's

responsibility to install and maintain the devices needed to prevent cross-connections and backflow. WaterPro, like other public water systems, helps protect the public health by monitoring and inspecting backflow prevention systems in use by our commercial and residential customers.

If you have any questions about backflow prevention, please contact a licensed plumbing contractor or contact our WaterPro backflow prevention specialist at [backflow@waterpro.net](mailto:backflow@waterpro.net).



Mark your calendars and come celebrate Cinco De Mayo Friday, May 5th with Draper City! This free festival will have lots of activities and be fun for the whole family!

6-8:30 p.m. in Draper Park