



CHARLOTTE COUNTY NEEDS YOUR ASSISTANCE

In order to comply with Florida Department of Environmental Protection regulations, Charlotte County is requesting information from its residential water customers in the form of a short survey. This begins the process by which Charlotte County will implement the Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Program required by Florida Administrative Code 62-555.360(2).

What is backflow? Backflow is the movement of water in the opposite direction of normal flow. Backflow can be caused by a pressure drop in the utility supply line or by an increase in pressure from a pump or other device in use at the customer's home.

What is a cross-connection? Cross-connection is the connection of a drinking water pipe to any other pipe containing another water source, such as well or canal water. These auxiliary water sources (canals, lakes or wells) are normally used for irrigation.

What if I don't have any cross-connections in my home? If you've ever used a garden hose to apply an herbicide or fertilizer, or filled a pool or hot tub, or used a pressure sprayer, you have created a potential cross-connection. Garden hoses are the most frequent cause of cross-connection in residential homes. Without appropriate backflow prevention in place, pressure changes could cause these substances to reverse their flow and be drawn through the garden hose into the public water supply.

Why should I be concerned about cross-connection and backflow? Any situation that can cause the mixing of the safe drinking water and some other substance could make the drinking water unsafe to drink. No one would want to have their drinking water contaminated. Thus, it is essential to prevent backflow and maintain a system free from cross-connections.

What can I do to help keep our drinking water safe? Purchase a simple vacuum breaker for your garden hose (available at any home improvement or hardware store) to prevent backflow in your home. You can also assist by completing the brief survey below and returning it to Charlotte County Utilities by fax or by mail.

Charlotte County Utilities Residential Customer Irrigation Survey

Name: _____ CCU Account Number: _____

Address: _____

1. Does your home have a swimming pool? Yes No

2. Do you have an irrigation system? Yes No

3. If yes, what is the water source? Pond Lake River Stream
 Canal
 Well Drinking Water (provided by CCU)

4. Is your irrigation system connected to more than one water source? Yes No

Fax completed surveys to: 941.627.4603, Attn: Gordon Madara
Mail to: Charlotte County Utilities, 25550 Harbor View Rd., Suite 1, Port Charlotte, FL 33980, Attn: Gordon Madara.