

Cross-Connection - Additional and Expanded Definitions

Air-gap separation – means the unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening from any pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture, or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle. An “approved air-gap separation” shall be at least double the inside diameter of the supply pipe or six (6) inch, whichever is the lesser a measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel; in no case shall the gap be less than one inch.

Approved – The term “approved” as herein used in reference to a water supply system or backflow prevention device (or method) shall mean one that has been approved by the appropriate regulatory agency.

Auxiliary supply – means any water source or system other than the public water supply that may be available in the building or premises.

Backflow – means the flow of any foreign liquids, gases, or substances into the distributing pipe lines of a potable supply of water. Backflow may occur under two conditions: pressure greater than atmospheric (see **Back Pressure**, below), and pressure that is sub-atmospheric (see

Backsiphonage, below).

Backflow prevention device, approved – means a device that has been investigated and approved by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and water purveyor having jurisdiction. (Approval of the device may be left to the water purveyor at the discretion of the regulatory agencies.)

Backflow prevention device tester, certified – means a person in good standing who is qualified to test backflow prevention devices and has proven his competency to the satisfaction of the appropriate regulatory agency.

Back pressure – means backflow caused by a pump, elevated tank, boiler, or other means that could create pressure within the system greater than the supply pressure.

Backsiphonage – means a form of backflow due to a negative or sub-atmospheric pressure within a water system.

Consumer – means the owner or operator of a private potable water system served by a public water supply.

Contamination – means an impairment of the quality of the public water supply by the presence of any foreign substance (organic, inorganic, radiological, or biological) to a degree, which creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease (see **Pollution**, below) or creates a nuisance condition such as discoloration, staining, tastes, or odors.

Cross connection, point of – means a specific point or location in a public or a consumer’s potable water system where a cross connection exists.

Hazard, degree of – expresses the results of an evaluation of a health, system, or plumbing hazard.

Hazard, health – means any condition, device, or practice in a water supply system and its operation that creates, or may create, a danger to the health and well-being of a consumer.

Hazard, high (contamination) – means a physical or toxic hazard, which could be detrimental to health.

Hazard, low (pollution) – means a hazard, which could cause aesthetic problems or have a detrimental effect on the quality of water in the system.

Hazard, plumbing – means a cross connection in a consumer’s potable water system that may permit backsiphonage in the event of a negative pressure in the supply line. (Unprotected plumbing-type cross connections are considered to be health hazards. They include, but are not limited to, faulty connections to fixtures such as toilets, sinks, tubs, lavatories, wash trays, and domestic washing machines.)

Hazard, system – means a threat to the physical quality of the public water or the consumer’s potable water system or introduction of a material not dangerous to health but aesthetically objectionable that would have a degrading effect on the quality of the potable water in the system.

Industrial fluid – means any fluid or solution that may chemically, biologically, or physically degrade the approved water supply.

Industrial line – means a separate water piping system serving water-using devices, with a backflow preventer or air gap separation on this line at the point of takeoff from the potable water line.

Industrial piping system, consumers – means a system used by a consumer for transmission or storage of anything (fluid, solid, or gas) other than the water supply intended or used for human consumption or food processing. (Such a system would include all pipes, conduits, tanks, receptacles, fixtures, equipment, and appurtenances used to produce, convey, or store substances that are or may be polluted.)

Isolation – means to install a backflow prevention device at the point of service connection on the downstream side of the water meter.

Non-potable water – means water not safe for drinking, personal, or culinary use.

Operator – means the person in direct or responsible charge and supervising the operation of a wastewater or water treatment plant and/or a water distribution system.

Person – means any person, firm, organization, partnership, trust, or association of persons, joint venture, corporation, or company, and includes the United States, the State of Indiana, and any officer or agent thereof.

Points of delivery – (See **Service connection**, below)

Pollution – means the presence in water of any foreign substance (organic, inorganic, radiologic, or biologic) that tends to degrade its quality so as to constitute a hazard or to impair its potability or usefulness.

Potable water – means water that is safe for drinking, personal, or culinary use.

Premises – means integrated land area including improvements thereon undivided by public thoroughfares or water distribution mains where all parts of the land area are operated under the same management and for the same purpose.

Protection device – means any of the following devices: 1) air gap separation; 2) approved double check valve assembly; 3) approved reduced-pressure-principle backflow prevention assembly, or 4) atmospheric or pressure vacuum breaker.

Service connection – means the terminal end of a service from the public water supply – that is, where the water purveyor surrenders jurisdiction and sanitary control over the water at its point of delivery to the consumer's water system. If a meter is installed at the end of the service connection, then the service connection means the downstream terminus of the meter.

Water delivered (delivered water) – shall mean any water supplied by a water purveyor from a public water supply to a consumer's water system after it has passed the point of delivery and is no longer under the sanitary control of the water purveyor.

Water purveyor – means the owner or operator of a public water supply.

Water supply, approved – means any public or consumer's potable water supply that has been investigated and approved by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. In determining what constitutes an approved water supply, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management shall have the final judgment as to its safety and potability.

Water system, consumers – means any water system, potable or non-potable, located on the consumer's premises, whether supplied by a public water supply or an auxiliary water system.