



**ORDINANCE NO. 0-8.1-2017  
ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT**

**SUPERSEDES ORDINANCE NO. 0-6-2011  
INSTITUTING A CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL AND  
BACKFLOW PREVENTION PROGRAM  
TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM**

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to Title 17-Public Health, California Code of Regulations.

It is unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation at any time to make or maintain or cause to be made or maintained, temporarily or permanently, for any period of time a cross-connection between plumbing pipes or water fixtures being served by the Rowland Water District, any other water supply source or to maintain any sanitary fixture or other appurtenances or fixtures which, by reason of their construction, may cause or allow backflow of water or other substances into the water supply system of the Rowland Water District and/or the service connections or fixtures of any customer of the Rowland Water District.

**Section 1. CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL — GENERAL POLICY**

**1.1 Purpose.** The purpose of this Ordinance is:

1.1.1 To protect the public potable water supply of the Rowland Water District (District) from the possibility of contamination or pollution by isolating within the customer's internal distribution system(s) or the customer's private water system(s) such contaminants or pollutants which could backflow into the public water systems; and,

1.1.2 To promote the elimination or control of existing cross-connections, actual or potential, between the customer's in-plant potable water system(s) and non-potable water system, plumbing fixtures and industrial piping systems; and,

1.1.3 To provide for the maintenance of a continuing Program of Cross-Connection Control which will systematically and effectively prevent the contamination or pollution of all potable water systems.

**1.2 Responsibility.** The District shall be responsible for the protection of the public potable water distribution system from contamination or pollution due to the backflow of contaminants or pollutants through the water service connection. The customer's system will be open for inspection at all reasonable times to authorized representatives of the District to determine compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance. Whenever the District determines that an approved backflow prevention assembly is required (at the customer's water service connection;

or, within the customer's private water system) under this Ordinance, for the safety of the water system, the District or its designated agent shall give notice in writing to the customer to install an approved backflow prevention assembly(s) at a specific location(s) on the customer's premises. The customer shall install an approved backflow prevention assembly(s), in accordance with current District installation specifications and guidelines, at the customer's own expense; and, failure, refusal or inability on the part of the customer to install, test and maintain the assembly(s), shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until all requirements have been satisfactorily met. The approved assembly(s) must be installed and tested within ninety (90) calendar days for all assemblies measuring less than or equal to 2.5" in size, and within one-hundred eighty (180) calendar days for all assemblies measuring 3" or larger in size.

## **Section 2. DEFINITIONS**

**Air-Gap Separation:** The term "Air-Gap Separation" means a physical break between a supply pipe and a receiving vessel. The air gap shall be at least double the diameter of the supply pipe measured vertically above the top rim of the vessel, and not less than one inch.

**Backflow:** The term "Backflow" shall mean a flow condition caused by a differential in pressure that causes the flow of water or other liquids, gases, mixtures or substances into the distributing pipes of all potable supply of water from any source or sources other than an approved water supply source. Backsiphonage and/or back pressure are potential causes of a backflow condition.

**Contamination:** The term "Contamination" means the degradation of quality in potable water by any foreign substance which creates a hazard to public health or which may impair the best use or quality of the water.

**Cross-Connection:** The term "Cross-Connection" as used in this ordinance means any 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 and potable. Bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or changeover devices, or other devices through which backflow could occur, shall be considered to be a cross-connection.

**Degree of Hazard:** Either a pollutant (non-health hazard) or contaminant (health hazard), derived from the assessment of the materials, which may come in contact with the distribution system through a cross-connection.

**Double Check Valve Assembly:** The term "Double Check Valve Assembly" means an approved assembly of at least two independently acting check valves including tightly closing shut-off valves on each side of the check valve assembly and test cocks available for testing the water tightness of each check valve.

**Premises:** The term "Premises" means any and all areas on a customer's property which are served or have the potential to be served by the public water system.

**Protected:** The term “Protected” as used in this Ordinance means having a properly operating “Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly” as defined in Section 3.2.5 of this Ordinance.

**Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly:** The term “Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assembly” means an assembly incorporating two or more check valves and an automatically operating differential relief valve located between the two checks, a tightly closing shut off valve on each side of the check valve assembly, and equipped with necessary test cocks for testing.

**Service Connection:** The term “Service Connection” refers to the point of connection of a user’s piping to the public water system.

**Water Supplier:** The term “Water Supplier” means Rowland Water District supply system.

**Water User:** The term “Water User” means any person obtaining water from the Rowland Water District supply system.

### **Section 3. REQUIREMENTS**

#### **3.1 Water System**

3.1.1 The water system shall be considered to be made up of two parts: The Water Supplier’s System and the Customer’s System.

3.1.2 Water Supplier’s System shall consist of the source facilities and the distribution system; and shall include all those facilities of the water system under the complete control of the District, up to the point where the customer’s system begins.

3.1.3 The source shall include all components of the facilities utilized in the production, treatment, storage, and delivery of water to the distribution system.

3.1.4 The distribution system shall include the network of conduits used for the delivery of water from the source to the customer’s system.

3.1.5 The customer’s system shall include those parts of the facilities beyond the termination of the water supplier distribution system which are utilized in conveying potable water to points of use.

#### **3.2 Policy**

3.2.1 No new or existing water service connection to any premises shall be installed or maintained by the District unless the water supply is protected as required by Title 17- Public Health, California Code of Regulations and this Ordinance No. 0-8.1-2017. Service of water to any premises shall be discontinued by the District if a backflow prevention assembly required by this Ordinance No. 0-8.1-2017 is not installed, tested and

maintained, or if it is found that a backflow prevention assembly has been removed, bypassed, or if an unprotected cross-connection exists on the premises. Service will not be restored until such conditions or defects are corrected.

3.2.2 The customer's system will be open for inspection at all reasonable times to authorized representatives of the District to determine whether unprotected cross-connections or other structural or sanitary hazards, including violations of these regulations, exist. When such a condition becomes known, the District shall deny or immediately discontinue service to the premises by providing for a physical break in the service line until the customer has corrected the condition(s) in conformance with the Title 17-Public Health, California Code of Regulations statutes relating to plumbing and water supplies and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

3.2.3 An approved backflow prevention assembly is required on each service line to a customer's water system at or near the property line or meter; but, in all cases, before the first branch line leading off the service line wherever the following conditions exist:

a. In the case of premises having an auxiliary water supply which is not or may not be of safe bacteriological or chemical quality and which is not acceptable as an additional source by the District, the public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line commensurate with the degree of hazard.

b. In the case of premises on which any industrial fluids or any other objectionable substance is handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the public water system, the public system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line commensurate with the degree of hazard. This shall include the handling of process waters and waters originating from the water supplier's system which have been subject to deterioration in quality.

c. In the case of premises having (1) internal cross-connections that cannot be permanently corrected or protected against, or (2) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not dangerous cross-connections exist, the public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by installing an approved backflow prevention assembly in the service line.

3.2.4 The type of protective assembly required under subsections 3.2.3 a., b., and c. shall depend upon the degree of hazard which exists as follows:

a. In the case of any premises where there is an auxiliary water supply as stated in subsection 3.2.3 a. of this section and it is not subject to any of the following rules, the public water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly.

b. In the case of any premises where there is any material danger to health, which is handled in such a fashion as to create an actual or potential hazard to the public water system, the public water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly. Examples of premises where these conditions will exist include sewage treatment plants, sewage pumping stations, chemical manufacturing plants, hospitals, mortuaries and plating plants.

c. In the case of any premises where there are unprotected cross-connections, either actual or potential, the public water system shall be protected by an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly at the service connection.

d. In the case of any premise where, because of security requirements or other prohibitions or restrictions, it is impossible or impractical to make a complete in-plant cross-connection survey, the public water system shall be protected against backflow from the premises by either an approved air gap or an approved reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly on each service to the premise.

3.2.5 Any backflow prevention assembly required herein shall be a make, model and size approved by the California Department of Health Services. The term "Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly" shall mean an assembly that has been manufactured in full conformance with the standards established by the American Water Works Association entitled: AWWA/ANSI C510-2007 Standard for Double Check Valve Backflow Prevention Assemblies; AWWA/ANSI C511-2007 Standard for Reduced Pressure Principle Backflow Prevention Assemblies; and, have met completely the laboratory and field performance standards of the Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research of the University of Southern California (USC FCCCHR) established in: Standards of Backflow Prevention Assemblies Chapter 10 of the most current edition of the Manual of Cross-Connection Control. Said AWWA and USC FCCCHR standards have been adopted by the California Department of Health Services. Final approval shall be evidenced by a "Certificate of Compliance" for the AWWA standards; or the appearance of the specific model and size on the List of Approved Backflow Prevention Assemblies published by the USC FCCCHR along with a "Certificate of Approval" for the USC FCCCHR Standards issued by an approved testing laboratory.

Backflow preventers, which may be subjected to backpressure or backsiphonage, that have been fully tested and have been granted a Certificate of Approval by said qualified laboratory and are listed on the laboratory's current list of approved backflow prevention assemblies may be used without further test or qualification.

3.2.6 It shall be the duty of the customer at any premise where backflow prevention assemblies are installed to have a field test performed by a certified backflow prevention assembly tester within thirty (30) calendar days of installation and at least once per year thereafter. In those instances where the District deems the hazard to be great enough, the District may require field tests at more frequent intervals. The District will notify affected customers by mail when testing of an assembly is needed and also supply users with the necessary forms which must be filled out each time an assembly is tested or



repaired. It shall be the responsibility of the District to see that these tests are made in a timely manner. The customer will be notified not less than thirty (30) calendar days before the due date that the assembly(s) is due for testing. "Past Due" notices will be sent to any customer who has failed to have the assembly(s) tested by the due date. If the assembly(s) are not tested by the due date shown on the past due notice, a service disconnection notice will be issued, which shall be delivered in person or by telephone 48 hours before termination of service. These tests shall be at the expense of the water user and shall be performed by a certified tester approved by the District. These assemblies shall be repaired, overhauled or replaced at the expense of the customer whenever the assemblies are found to be defective. Records of all tests, repairs and overhaul shall be kept and made available to the District. Test reports that are not completed by a given due date will be subject to penalty fees and possible discontinuance of water service.

3.2.7 Any industrial or commercial building planning or engaging in the remodel or improvement of the existing water facilities served by the Rowland Water District will be required to comply with current Cross-Connection Control requirements.

3.2.8 The District is authorized to make all necessary and reasonable rules and policies with respect to the enforcement of this ordinance. All such rules and policies shall be consistent with the provisions of this ordinance and shall be effective immediately upon approval of the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District.

#### **Section 4. SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or any part thereof, is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof.

Said Ordinance was adopted, on roll call vote, at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on August 8, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Lu-Yang, Lewis, Lima and Bellah  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Director Rios

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 0-8.1-2017, adopted by the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District at its regular meeting held on August 8, 2017.

  
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Szu Pei Lu-Yang, President

  
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Tom Coleman, Secretary