ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT

ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

2021

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

MassDEP PWSID # 1004000

3 Columbia Street
Adams, MA 01220
Tel: 413-743-0179
Fax: 413-743-0896
Web Address: www.adamsfiredistrict.com

This report is a snapshot of drinking water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

1. PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION

Contact Person: **John Barrett, Adams Fire District Superintendent**

Water System Improvements

Our water system is routinely inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). MassDEP inspects our system for its technical, financial, and managerial capacity to provide safe drinking water to you. To ensure that we provide the highest quality of water available, the water system is operated by Massachusetts certified Drinking Water Operators who oversee the routine operation of the system. As part of our commitment to our valued customers, we continued our hydrant inspection, maintenance, flushing programs, meter replacements, and our bi-annual leak detection. This year we repaired eight (8) water main breaks, nine (9) service upgrades with four (4) requiring main shutdowns to replace corporations. We installed 10 hydrants, with five (5) requiring water main shut-downs to replace hydrant piping with larger mains and install new isolation gate valves. The Adams Fire District painted several hydrants, and repaired three (3). We also installed just over 300 new meters, and approximately 30 check valves in residential dwellings. Approximately 180-feet of new water main was installed after boring under the brook on Davis Street prior to the new bridge installation.

Opportunities for Public Participation

If you would like to participate in discussions regarding your water quality, you may attend the following meetings or educational events. The Prudential Committee meets monthly. Meetings are posted 48 hours in advance at the District Office and Town Hall. Please call the District Office for more information at (413) 743-0179.

2. YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

Your drinking water comes from three wells sunk about 80-100 feet into an underground source of water located in the Upper Hoosac River Valley in the Town of Cheshire. These wells are known as Cheshire Harbor Wells #2A, 3, and 4. These locations also serve as District's Treatment Facilities. The District owns the land around them and restricts any activity that could contaminate them. The three wells are gravel-packed wells with a combined capacity of 3600 GPM. Your water is provided by the following sources listed below:

Source Name	MassDEP Source ID#	Source Type	Location of Source
Well 2A	1004000-02G	Groundwater	264 East View Drive, Cheshire, MA
Well 3	1004000-03G	Groundwater	264 East View Drive, Cheshire, MA
Well 4	1004000-04G	Groundwater	264 East View Drive, Cheshire, MA

Is My Water Treated?

Our water system makes every effort to provide you with safe and pure drinking water. To improve the quality of the water delivered to you, we treat it to remove contaminants.

- Chlorine (sodium hypochlorite), a disinfectant, is added to protect you against microbial contaminants.
- The water is treated with CalciQuest® to reduce corrosion

The water quality of our system is constantly monitored by our staff and MassDEP to determine the effectiveness of the existing water treatment and to determine if any additional treatment is required.

How Are These Sources Protected?

The Adams Fire District continues to remind our water users of the importance of protecting our source water. Protecting our drinking water source is essential for maintaining and improving the quality of human health and the environment. MassDEP has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the water supply source(s) serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of public water supplies to contamination by summarizing information about the activities and land uses within the recharge area.

What is My System's Ranking?

Our drinking water source, the Cheshire Harbor Wellfield, was given a susceptibility ranking of moderate to high using the information collected during the assessment by MassDEP. A "moderate to high" susceptibility ranking is a measure of a water supply's potential to become contaminated due to land uses and activities within its recharge area.

Where Can I See the SWAP Report?

The complete SWAP report is available at the Adams Board of Health at 8 Park Street and online at http://mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/water/drinking/swap/wero/1004000.pdf. For more information, call Water Superintendent John C. Barrett at (413) 743-0978, ext. 13.

What Are the Key Issues for Our Water Supply?

The SWAP Report notes the key issues of following best management practices related to spill prevention and implementing a wellhead protection plan for the water supply protection area of Wells #2A, 3, and 4.

What Can Be Done To Improve Protection?

The SWAP report recommends:

- That the Adams Fire District follows Best Management Practices (BMP's) focusing on spill prevention, and operational practices to reduce the use and release of hazardous materials.
- That the Adams Fire District and the Town of Cheshire work together to implement a Wellhead Protection Plan and establish wellhead protection controls for the Cheshire Harbor Wellfield.

Residents can help protect sources by:

- Practicing good septic system maintenance,
- Supporting water supply protection initiatives at District meetings,
- Taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days,
- Volunteering for education outreach programs at schools,
- Limiting pesticide and fertilizer use, etc.

3. SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants – such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants – such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants – which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of

Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Adams Fire District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

4. IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

90th Percentile – Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG) – This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) below which there is no known of expected risk to health.

MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Non-Detect (ND) – The laboratory did not detect the contaminant in the sample.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) – These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unregulated Contaminants - Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Abbreviations

ppm	= parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)	NTU	= Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppb	= parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)	ND	= Not Detected
ppt	= parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter	N/A	= Not Applicable
pCi/L	= picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)	mrem/year	= millimrems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body

5. WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS

What Does This Data Represent?

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown was collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

MassDEP has reduced the District monitoring requirements for all volatile organic compound (VOC's), all synthetic organic compounds (SOC's), and barium and fluoride, which are inorganic compounds (IOC's) because the source is not at risk of contamination. The last sample collected for these contaminants was taken in 2020. All samples were found to meet all applicable US EPA and MassDEP standards.

	Date(s) Collected	90TH percentile	Action Level	MCLG	# of sites sampled	# of sites above Action Level	Possible Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	08-10-2021 - 08-16-2021	0.00112	15	0	20	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	08-10-2021 - 08-16-2021	0.31	1.3	1.3	20	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Lead and copper compliance is based on the 90th percentile value, which is the highest level found in 9 out of every 10 homes sampled or the average of the 2 highest levels if fewer than 10 homes are sampled. When the 90th percentile value is above the action level (AL), a public water system must implement corrosion control treatment.

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	08-09-21	1.33	<0.500 – 1.33	80	N/A	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	08-09-21	<1.00	-	60	N/A	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Synthetic Organic Contaminants							
2,4-D (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.100	-	70	70	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2,4,5-TP (Silvex) (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.200	-	50	50	N	Residue of banned herbicide
Alachlor (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.192	-	2	0	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Atrazine (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-	3	3	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Benzo(a)pyrene (ppt)	01-04-21	<19	-	200	0	N	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
Carbofuran (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.900	-	40	40	N	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
Chlordane (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.200	-	2	0	N	Residue of banned termiticide
Dalapon (ppb)	01-04-21	<1.00	-	200	200	N	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.577	-	400	400	N	Discharge from chemical factories
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.577	-	6	0	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) (ppt)	01-04-21	<10	-	200	0	N	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, and orchards
Dinoseb (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.200	-	7	7	N	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables
Endrin (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.0100	-	2	2	N	Residue of banned insecticide
Ethylene dibromide (EDB) (ppt)	01-04-21	<10	-	20	0	N	Residue of leaded gasoline or runoff from soil fumigant used on tobacco or strawberries
Heptachlor (ppt)	01-04-21	<0.038	-	400	0	N	Residue of banned pesticide
Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	01-04-21	<0.019	-	200	0	N	Breakdown of heptachlor
Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-	1	0	N	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-	50	50	N	Discharge from chemical factories
Lindane (ppt)	01-04-21	<0.019	-	200	200	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle, lumber, gardens
Methoxychlor (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-	40	40	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Oxamyl (Vydate) (ppb)	01-04-21	<2.00	-	200	200	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (ppt)	01-04-21	<20.0	<0.0800 - <20.0	500	0	N	Runoff from landfills; discharge of waste chemicals; residue of banned use in electrical transformers
Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.0400	-	1	0	N	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Picloram (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.100	-	500	500	N	Runoff from herbicide use
Simazine (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.067	-	4	4	N	Runoff from herbicide use
Toxaphene (ppb)	01-04-21	<1.00	-	3	0	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cotton and cattle
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate (ppm)	04-05-21	0.483	-	10	10	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated contaminants are those for which there are no established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist regulatory agencies in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Unregulated and Secondary Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source
Unregulated Contaminants						
Aldicarb (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.500			3	Run-off from use as a pesticide
Aldicarb sulfone (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.800			2	Degraded from aldicarb by plants
Aldicarb sulfoxide (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.500			4	Degraded from aldicarb by plants
Aldrin(ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096			N/A	Run-off from insecticide use
Bromoform (ppb)	08-09-21	<0.500	-		N/A	Trihalomethane; by- product of drinking water chlorination
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	08-09-21	<0.500 – 0.510	-		N/A	Trihalomethane; by-product of drinking water chlorination
Butachlor(ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096			N/A	Run-off from use as a herbicide
Carbaryl (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.500			N/A	Run-off from use as an insecticide
Chloroform (ppb)	08-09-21	<0.500	-	N/A	70	By-product of drinking water chlorination (In non-chlorinated sources it may be naturally occurring)
Dibromodichloromethane (ppb)	08-09-21	<0.500 – 0.820	-	N/A	N/A	Trihalomethane; By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dicamba (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.100	-		N/A	Run-off from use as a herbicide

Unregulated and Secondary Contaminants	Date(s) Collected	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG	Possible Source
Dieldrin (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.0200	-		N/A	Run-off from pesticide application
3-Hydroxycarbofuran (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.500	-		N/A	Breakdown product from the use of the pesticide carboxyfuran
Methomyl (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.500	-		N/A	Runoff from use as an insecticide
Metolachlor (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-		100	Run-off from use as a herbicide
Metribuzin (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-		N/A	Run-off from use as a herbicide
Propachlor (ppb)	01-04-21	<0.096	-		N/A	Run-off from use as a herbicide
Secondary Contaminants						
Alkalinity (CACO3) Total (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	108 - 138		None	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	11-01-21 11-15-21	27.6 -40.2			N/A	Naturally occurring
Chloride (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	9.81 -39.5			250	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Copper (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	0.0400 - 0.0441		1	N/A	Naturally occurring organic material
Hardness (CACO3) Total	11-01-21 11-15-21	118 -162		None	N/A	Naturally occurring
Iron (ppb)	04-05-21 06-07-21 11-01-21 11-15-21	ND - 478		300	N/A	Naturally occurring, corrosion of cast iron pipes
Manganese* (ppb)	04-05-21 06-07-21 11-01-21 11-15-21	<2 - 15	-	50	Health Advisory of 300 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
** EPA has established a lifetime Health Advisory (HA) for manganese of 0.3 mg/L and an acute HA at 1.0 mg/L*						
Magnesium (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	12 - 15		None	N/A	Naturally occurring.
pH	11-01-21 11-15-21	8.13 - 7.79		6.5-8.5	N/A	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Potassium (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	1.05 - 1.08		None	N/A	Naturally occurring.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	11-01-21 11-15-21	143 - 227		500	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.

6. COMPLIANCE WITH DRINKING WATER REGS

Does My Drinking Water Meet Current Health Standards?

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. We are proud to report that last year your drinking water met all applicable health standards regulated by the state and federal government.

Do I Need To Be Concerned About Certain Contaminants Detected In My Water?

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Adams Fire District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on

lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

7. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

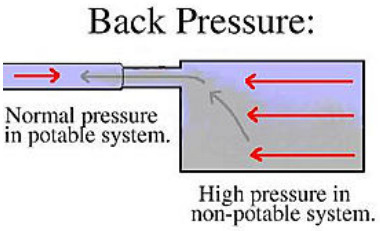
The Adams Fire District makes every effort to ensure that the water delivered to your home and business is clean, safe and free of contamination. Our staff works very hard to protect the quality of the water delivered to our customers from the time the water is extracted via deep wells from underground aquifers throughout the entire treatment and distribution system. But what happens when the water reaches your home or business? Is there still a need to protect the water quality from contamination caused by a cross-connection? If so, how?

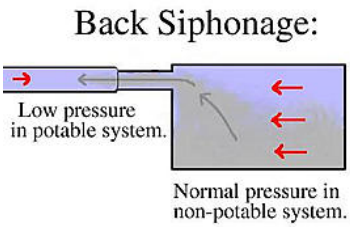
What is a Cross Connection and What Can I do about it?

A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. The pollution can come from your own home. For instance, you're going to spray fertilizer on your lawn. You hook up your hose to the sprayer that contains the fertilizer. If the water pressure drops (say because of fire hydrant use in the area) when the hose is connected to the fertilizer, the fertilizer may be pulled back into the drinking water pipes through the hose. Using an attachment on your hose called a backflow-prevention device can prevent this problem.

What is a backflow?

Backflow is the undesired reverse of the water flow in the drinking water distribution lines. This backward flow of water can occur when the pressure created by equipment or a system such as a boiler or air-conditioning is higher than the water pressure inside the water distribution line (back pressure), or when the pressure in the distribution line drops due to routine occurrences such as water main breaks or heavy water demand causing the water to flow backward inside the water distribution system (back siphonage). Backflow is a problem that many water consumers are unaware of, a problem that each and every water customer has a responsibility to help prevent.





What can I do to help prevent a cross-connection?

Without the proper protection something as simple as a garden hose has the potential to contaminate or pollute the drinking water lines in your house. In fact, over half of the country's cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses. There are very simple steps that you as a drinking water user can take to prevent such hazards, they are:

- NEVER submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pool, tubs, sinks, drains or chemicals.
- NEVER attach a hose to a garden sprayer without the proper backflow preventer.
- Buy and install a hose bibb vacuum breaker in any threaded water fixture. The installation can be as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers.
- Identify and be aware of potential cross-connections to your water line.
- Buy appliances and equipment with a backflow preventer
- Buy and install backflow prevention devices or assemblies for all high and moderate hazard connections.

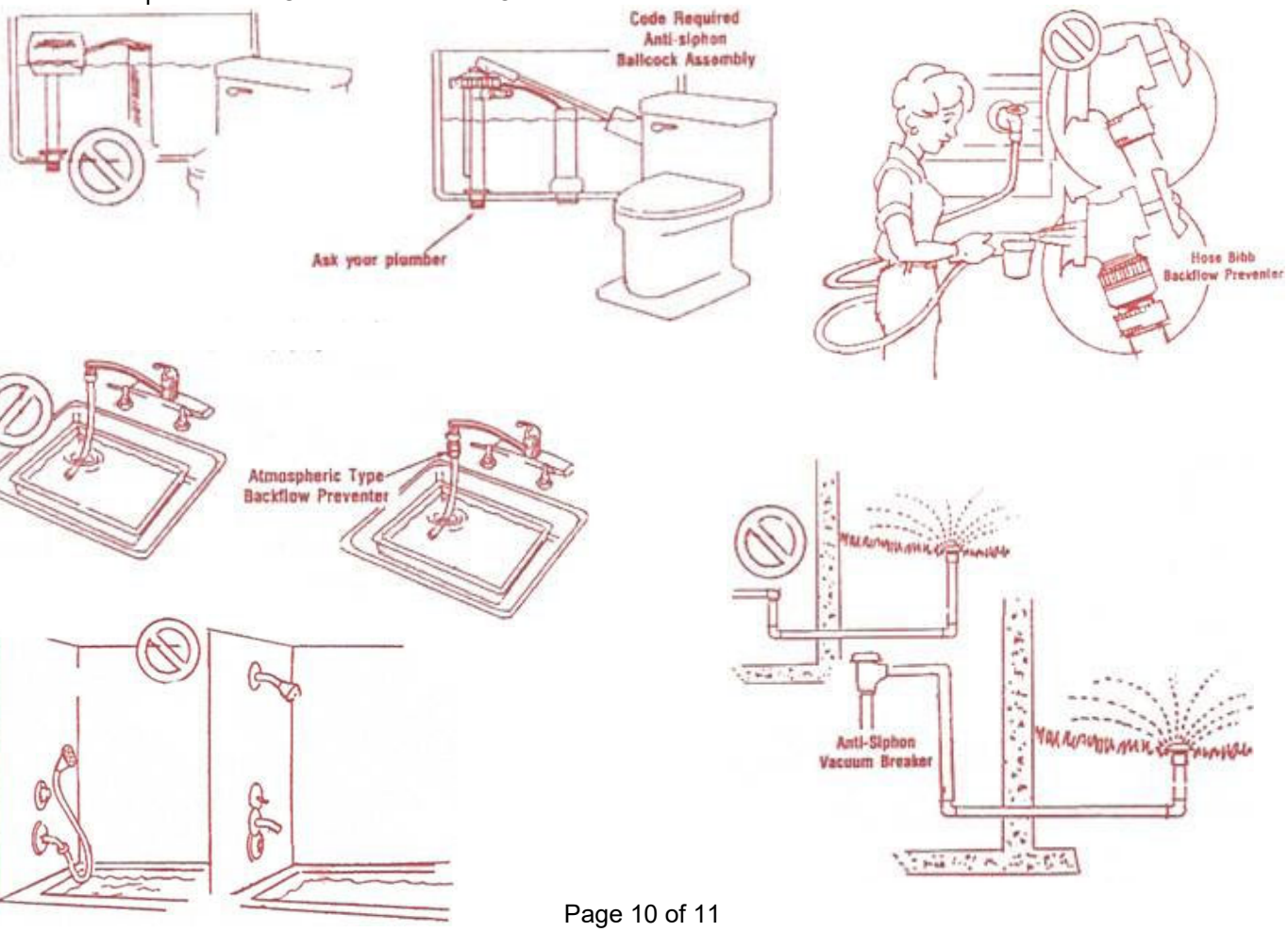
If you are the owner or manager of a property that is being used as a commercial, industrial, or institutional facility you must have your property's plumbing system surveyed for cross-connection by your water purveyor. If your property has NOT been surveyed for cross-connection contact your water department to schedule a cross-connection survey.

What is a Cross Connection and what can I do about it?

A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. The pollution can come from your own home. For instance, you're going to spray fertilizer on your lawn. You hook up your hose to the sprayer that contains the fertilizer. If the water pressure drops at the same time you turn on the hose, the fertilizer may be sucked back into the drinking water pipes through the hose. This problem can be prevented by using an attachment on your hose called a backflow-prevention device.

The Adams Fire District recommends the installation of backflow prevention devices, such as a **low-cost** hose bibb vacuum breaker, for all inside and outside hose connections. You can purchase these devices at a hardware store or plumbing supply store. This is a great way for you to help protect the water in your home as well as the drinking water in the District. For additional information on cross connections and on the status of your water system's cross connection program, please call Adams Fire District Superintendent John C. Barrett at (413) 743-0978, ext. 13.

Some Examples Where Cross-connections Occur



8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

2021 in Review

This year, we have continued all of our pre-existing programs, while expanding procedures on hydrant flushing, and water breaks. New this year, are two forms to be completed during every excavation/water break by our operators. First, is our Pipe Inspection form. This enables us to record the internal and external pipe condition, diameter, build material, bury depth, and soil material. Secondly, is our Gate Report form. We utilize this to record every gate valve operated, to document the number of turns, rotation direction, time of shutdown, time of reopening, and operator responsible. This confirms the valves are functioning properly, the valves are exercised so they are in working condition for the future, allows us to confirm gate valves are not left closed in our system, as this greatly effects flow capacities, and helps to ensure water quality. These new procedures aid with operational oversight, and asset management data for our public water supply and fire protection systems.

The re-evaluation of our system for ISO ratings was completed this year. We participated in conjunction with our Fire Department to complete an evaluation of our water main capacities for fire protection. This evaluation is in addition to our hydrant maintenance policies, procedures, and operational inventory which is 100% complete.

We expanded the flushing program this year to capture individual hydrant flow capacities. This information is gathered in addition to the data stored in our Hydraulic Model, allowing us to identify hydrants that may be connected utilizing undersized piping for our hydrant replacement efforts. It is our intent to capture these readings for three years, take an average, then repaint our hydrants in accordance with NFPA standards, which provide visual hydrant flow capacities, rather than our current color code, indicating main size. Additionally, we anticipate entering these flow rates on our in-house data system to further assist our Fire Department with vital flow capacity information while in route to a response. We hope the new policies implemented may improve or maintain our rating to keep your local insurance premiums at a minimum.

We again, continued many of our Best Management Practices, completing two (2) system wide leak detection surveys, to keep our distribution system running efficiently as possible. This year, we pumped 291,193,000 gallons, with an average of 797,789 gallons per day.

Please see our 144th Annual Report, which may be obtained at our office for more District information. Please visit our website, www.adamsfiredistrict.com and follow us on Facebook for more current information.