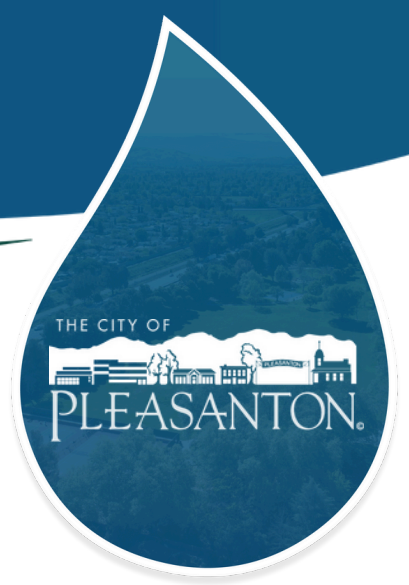


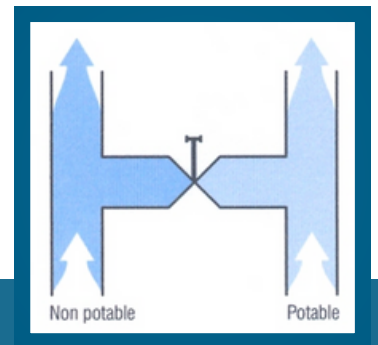
# CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL



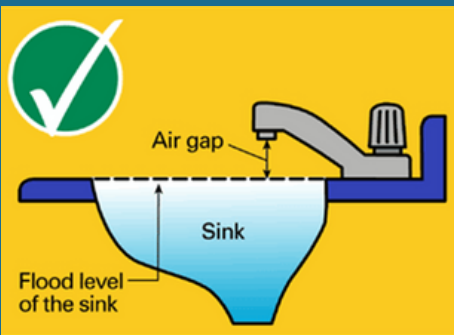
*Meeting New Mandates to Protect Local Water Supplies*

## WHAT IS A CROSS-CONNECTION?

An actual or potential link between a source of contamination and the drinking water system. It can occur from fixtures with direct connections (examples: swimming pools, fire sprinkler systems, wells, etc.) or submerged inlets (lawn sprinklers, drinking fountains, utility sinks, etc.).



## HOW TO PREVENT CROSS-CONNECTIONS



- Be aware of and eliminate cross-connections and backflow scenarios.
- Maintain air gaps. Do not submerge hoses or place them where they could become submerged (create a gap of air between supply and container). The air gap should be a distance twice the diameter of the outlet pipe.
- Use hose bib vacuum breakers on fixtures (hose connections in the basement, laundry room, and outside).

## PREVENTING A CROSS CONNECTION: BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

A backflow preventer is a device that stops water from flowing backward into the main water supply. Backflow preventers only allow water to flow in one direction from the water main into the system and should be tested annually by a licensed certified tester.

Owners of industrial, commercial and industrial facilities like hospitals, restaurants, auto repair businesses, and multi family housing must install backflow preventers on all water services – domestic, irrigation and fire systems. Residential water customers may be required to install a backflow preventer if they have a well on their property (auxiliary water supply).

