



## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SUPERIOR WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

---

### UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

575 E Clark Road • Ypsilanti, MI 48198

OFFICE (734) 480-5500

FAX (734) 484-4883

EMAIL [utilitydept@superior-twp.org](mailto:utilitydept@superior-twp.org)

WEB [superiortwp.org](http://superiortwp.org)

### Residential Cross Connection Program

Superior Township Utility Department is scheduled to launch a new residential cross connection and backflow prevention program this Spring/Summer.

The Safe Drinking Water Act EGLE Mandate requires that Superior Township protect the public water supply to the customer's tap. The exterior water connections of all residential properties must be inspected every three years and evaluated for potential cross contamination with non-drinking water sources or plumbing systems. This means all testable backflow devices for all residential properties must be tested. Testing ensures that the assemblies are operating as required to prevent backflow of contaminated or polluted water into the public drinking water supply.

**What is a cross connection?** Any arrangement of piping on a plumbing system that could result in *backflow* of contaminants into the public drinking water supply.

**What is backflow?** A backflow occurs when a reversal of water flow from a building's plumbing system backs up into the public drinking water supply system. This could be the result of a pressure drop in the public water supply system due to a main break. Backflow also happens when plumbing fixtures generate more pressure than the public supply system and pushes water back into the public drinking water supply. Common causes of backflow include irrigation systems, garden hoses that are submerged in swimming pools, utility sinks, buckets, mud puddles, etc.

**What to expect?** Superior Township Utility Department Field Technicians will be seen in neighborhoods conducting inspections which may require entering the backyards of properties. All Technicians will have picture identification badges and will be driving official Superior Township utility trucks. Inspections do not require the resident to be present and will be conducted outside of the home. Yard signs will be posted in the areas where inspections are being made.

For further information, please contact the Superior Township Utility Department at 734-480-5500.