

Cross Connection Information



Older style spigot— requires a hose bibb vacuum breaker to prevent any cross connection.



Hose bibb vacuum breaker—This device installs directly on an older style spigot to prevent cross connection. These can be purchased at your local hardware store and do NOT need to be tested.



Anti-siphon spigot that does not require a hose bibb vacuum breaker.

The City of Jacksonville is committed to providing quality, cost effective service in the production, treatment, testing, and delivery of safe drinking water to all residential, commercial, and industrial users. Please help us in doing so by installing backflow preventers and having them tested annually if necessary.



Yard hydrant—these should have at least a vacuum breaker if not Reduced Pressure backflow device to prevent backflow.



Hose Sprayer—must have a vacuum breaker or an anti-siphon spigot when using this. Otherwise, you run the risk of the chemicals getting into your home, causing a cross connection.



Leaving your hose end in a “pool” of water without the proper backflow preventer could cause the water in the “pool” to backflow into your home system or even into the main water supply.



Permanent lawn irrigation systems— a Reduced Pressure backflow device is required to prevent any cross connection between your system and potable water. This device should be tested annually.

The City of Jacksonville needs your help in protecting our water supply.

You can help us by:

- **Keeping the ends of your hoses clear of all possible contaminants and,**
- **If not already equipped with in-line protection device, buy and install approved hose bibb vacuum breakers on all threaded faucets. (These devices do NOT require testing.)**
- **Have all backflow prevention assemblies tested every year.**



Air gap—the area between the top of the filled container and the bottom of the faucet.

DO NOT:

- **Submerge hoses in buckets, vats, tubs, sinks, or ponds.**
- **Use spray attachments or valved spray hoses without a backflow preventer.**
- **Directly connect waste drain pipes from water softeners or other treatment systems to the sewer system. All drains should be air gapped.**

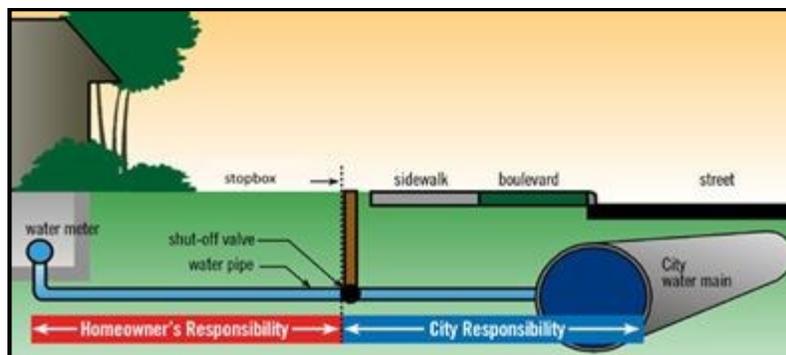


A mop/cleaning sink is present in many homes and businesses. If a hose bibb vacuum breaker is not installed on the faucet, the mucky water in the sink could end up in your potable water system.

Understanding Lead and Drinking Water

SOURCES OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

- ◇ Lead Goose Necks— Goose necks and pigtails are shorter pipes that connect the lead service line to the main
- ◇ Lead service line—the service line is the pipe that runs from the water main to the home’s internal plumbing.
- ◇ Galvanized pipe—lead particles can attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking water.
- ◇ Copper pipe with lead solder—solder made or installed before 1986 contained high lead levels.
- ◇ Faucets—fixtures inside your home may contain lead.



REDUCING LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER

- ◇ Flushing your water for at least 3-5 minutes before cooking or drinking.
- ◇ Clean aerators on your faucets.
- ◇ Use cold water when drinking, cooking or making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water. Boiling water does NOT remove lead from water.
- ◇ Replace plumbing fixtures in your home. Older faucets and fixtures may contain increased levels of lead.
- ◇ Use a home water filter or pitcher filter for water consumption.

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

- ◇ The City of Jacksonville is required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) to complete an inventory of all water service lines.
- ◇ The City of Jacksonville will contact homeowners to schedule an appointment to determine the water service material that is coming into the home.
- ◇ Entrance to the home and access to the water meter is required, but should take less than 15 minutes.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

If excess amounts of lead enters your body, it can lead to serious health problems such as brain and kidney damage. It can also interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen all over your body.

The greatest risk of lead is in children and pregnant women. The dangers of elevated lead levels in children include behavioral and learning problems, lower IQ, hyperactivity, slowed growth, hearing problems, or anemia.

The City’s water main distribution system does NOT contain lead.

Lead is NOT present in Jacksonville’s source water or treated water.

The City of Jacksonville banned the use of Lead in water service lines in late 1975.

LEAD AND DRINKING WATER

The City of Jacksonville is required to notify customers whenever water meters or water service lines are replaced or repaired. This is because of the possibility that the work being performed could result in the disturbance of sediment, possibly containing lead that could get into the water.

The notification is for informational purposes only. While it is not known for certain whether or not the replacement or repair will adversely affect the lead (if present) in plumbing in and outside of your home, flushing your water lines is a recommended preventative measure to potentially reduce the amount of lead in your water.

For more information on reducing lead exposure in your home and health effects of lead, visit the EPA’s website at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Identifying types of Service Line Materials

<p>Lead </p> <p>A dull, silver-gray color that is easily scratched with a coin. Use a magnet - strong magnets will not cling to lead pipes.</p>	<p>Copper </p> <p>The color of a copper penny.</p>
<p>Galvanized </p> <p>A dull, silver-gray color. Use a magnet - strong magnets will typically cling to galvanized pipes.</p>	<p>Plastic </p> <p>White, rigid pipe that is joined to water supply piping with a clamp.</p>