



WAUSAU WATERWORKS

FOR YOU!

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Bull Falls Tappers Back-to-Back Champs

Wausau's Bull Falls Tappers defended their state championship at the Wisconsin Water Association Distribution Seminar. The team finished in 1st place, defeating the Madison and West Allis teams with a time of 1:44.09.

Each team completes two taps in an exciting contest, which pits skills and muscles against the clock. The object of the competition is to tap a section of pressurized water main, attach a copper water service line, and then turn on the service see if there are any leaks. Judges analyze the work, penalizing for any infractions.

Winners of the competition go on to compete internationally at the American Water Works Association Annual Conference in Orlando Florida this June. The competition helps the teams hone their tapping skills, while also providing networking opportunities with peers from around the country.

Members of the 2019 team includes Copper Man Rick Dorn, Cranker Floyd Smith Jr., Coach Ray Younger, and Star Man Ryan Fischer.



What is a Cross-Connection?

A cross-connection is an actual or potential connection between the safe drinking water (potable) supply and a source of contamination or pollution. State plumbing codes require approved backflow prevention methods to be installed at every point of potable water connection and use. Cross-Connections must be properly protected or eliminated.

How does contamination occur?

When you turn on your faucet, you expect the water to be as safe as when it left the treatment plant. However, certain hydraulic conditions left unprotected within your plumbing system may allow hazardous substances to contaminate your own drinking water or even the public water supply.

Water normally flows in one direction. However, under certain conditions, water can actually flow backwards; this is known as Backflow. There are two situations that can cause water to flow backward: back siphonage and backpressure.

Backsiphonage

May occur due to a loss of pressure in the municipal water system during a fire fighting emergency, a water main break or system repair. This creates a siphon in your plumbing system which can draw water out of a sink or bucket and back into your water or the public water system.

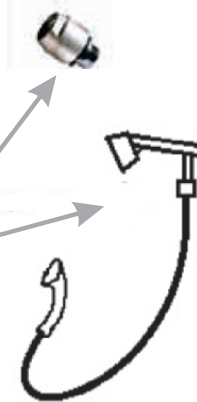
Backpressure

May be created when a source of pressure (such as a boiler) creates a pressure greater than the pressure supplied from the public water system. This may cause contaminated water to be pushed into your plumbing system through an unprotected cross-connection.

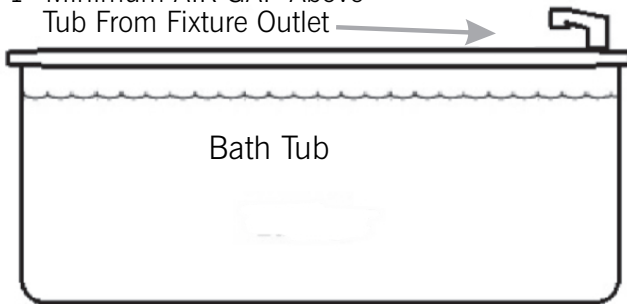
In the Bathroom - Hand Held Shower Fixture

The hand held shower fixture is compliant if:

- When shower head is hanging freely, it is at least 1” above top of the flood level rim of the receptor (tub)
- Complies with **ASSE#1014**
- Has the **ASME code 112.18.1** stamped on the handle



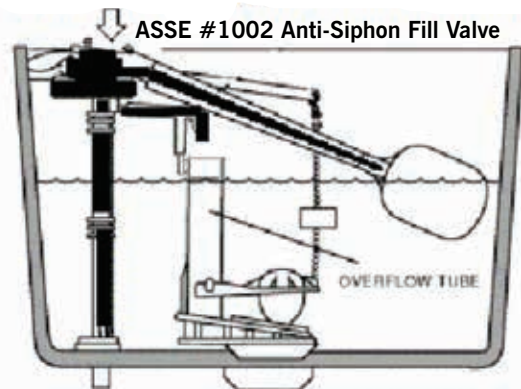
1” Minimum AIR GAP Above Tub From Fixture Outlet



In the Bathroom - Toilet Tanks

There are many unapproved toilet tank fill valve products sold at common retailers which do not meet the state plumbing code requirements for backflow prevention.

- Look for the **ASSE #1002** Standard symbol on the device and packaging.
- Replace any unapproved devices with an **ASSE #1002** approved anti-siphon fill valve device. Average cost is typically \$12 to \$22 at home improvement stores.
- Verify overflow tube is one inch below critical level (CL) marking on the device.



Toilet water tank

Insights to protect your drinking water

Do...

- Keep the ends of hoses clear of all possible contaminants.
- Make sure dishwashers are installed with a proper “air gap” device.
- Verify and install a simple hose bibb vacuum breaker on all threaded faucets around your home.
- Make sure water treatment devices such as water softeners have the proper “air gap”, which is a minimum of one inch above any drain.

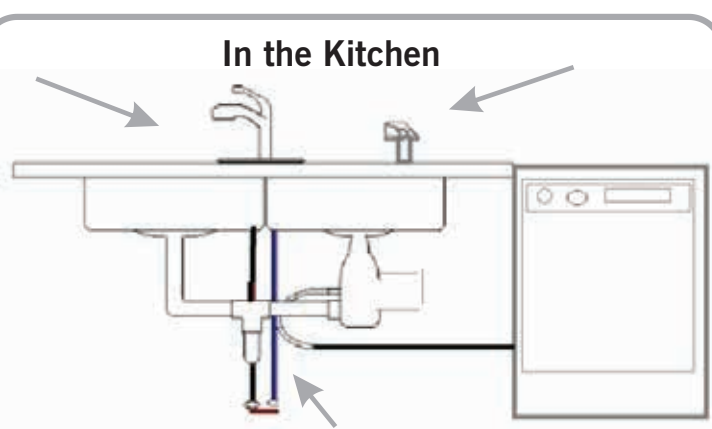
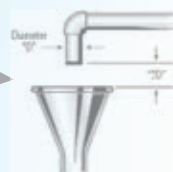
Hose bibb Vacuum Breaker



Don't...

- Submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, sinks or ponds.
- Use spray attachments without a backflow prevention device.
- Connect waste pipes from water softeners or other treatment systems directly to the sewer or submerged drain pipe. Always be sure there is a one inch “air gap” separation.

Air Gap



Hoses and water treatment devices may create a potential backflow hazard if not properly isolated with backflow prevention methods.

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Congratulations and Welcome Aboard

Wausau Water Works would like to congratulate Rich Wendlick on his recent retirement. Rich retired with 26 years of service. Rich, thank you for your service, you will be missed! We would also like to welcome Austin Waldvogel, to the Water Department.

Water Main Breaks

Cold winter temperatures bring water main breaks! We are asking for your help in spotting water main breaks. If you see any running water any time of day, please call Wausau WaterWorks, at 715-261-7265 to let us know. Reporting main breaks when you see them helps us keep repair costs down and limit property damage.



Winter Is Here

Our crews are responding to frozen services and water main breaks as fast as they can. While crews are working please avoid the area and give them room to work. Our equipment is big and needs room to operate and ensure a safe work site for our employees.



To help relieve some of the calls please take time to winterize your homes and protect your water pipes.

Wausau Water works would like to wish you a safe and Happy New Year!

How Much Water Did I Use?

Let's break down how much water you have used. Locate your water bill and look at the usage column, this is the number of units you have used in the current billing period. What is a unit? Each unit is equal to 100 cubic feet. Each cubic foot is equal to 7.48 gallons.

To help visualize that amount of water, imagine a box that is 1 foot long, 1 foot wide and 1 foot tall, that box is equal to 1 cubic foot. If we fill 100 of these boxes with water it will be equal to 1 unit of water. If your bill shows that you used 3 units imagine 300 boxes.

Let's take it a step further and convert this number to something we can relate to. Take the number of units shown on your bill and multiply it by 100, this will give you the total cubic feet you have used in the current billing period. Each one of those cubic feet (or boxes) is equal to 7.48 gallons. Take your total cubic feet and multiply it by 7.48, this will give you your usage in gallons.

Example

This bill shows 17 units of consumption.

Service Code	Previous Reading	Current Reading	Usage	Current Charges
WATER	157	174	17	56.00

17 units X 100= 1700 cubic feet.

1700 cubic feet x 7.48 = 12,716 gallons of water used.

Homeowners can monitor their quarterly usage by tracking the units on each bill from quarter to quarter.

If you have any questions please contact us at 715-261-6530.

